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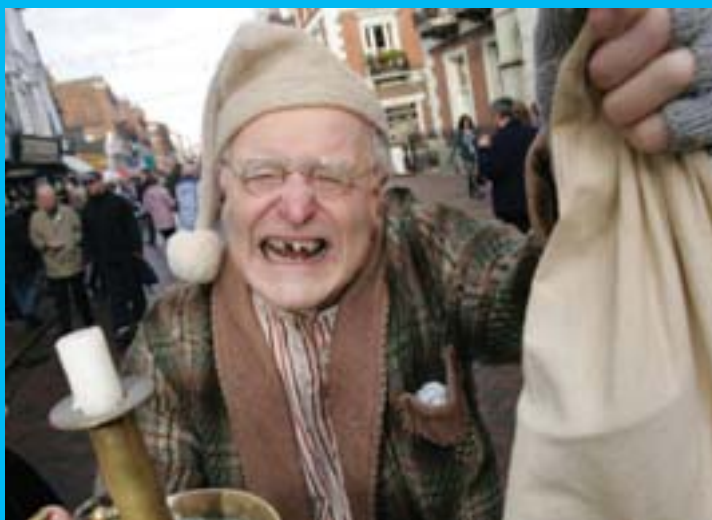
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THE FUN OF CHRISTMAS PAST



Picture: STUART THOMAS PHOTOGRAPHY

Cruel Ebenezer Scrooge will head for Rochester this weekend to take part in the annual Dickensian Christmas celebrations.

The timeless Christmas Carol character will help transport High Street visitors back to the 1800s, when Charles Dickens was a young boy. Music and entertainment will be provided in dozens of pubs, clubs and restaurants in the historic town, while street traders will be offering up a range of tasty treats and drinks to help stave off the winter weather.

The festival begins on Friday with the Grand Mistletoe Ball at the Corn Exchange and continues until late on Sunday evening.

FULL STORY IN OUR LEISURE SECTION ON PAGE 20

Medway improves dental care as most of Kent gets worse

BY SIMON ROBINSON

MORE people in Medway are getting to see an NHS dentist compared with two years ago – bucking the national downward trend.

NHS figures show 63 per cent of Medway PCT patients received treatment in the previous 24 months up to March 2008, up nearly ten per cent on the figure up to March 2006.

In real terms, more than 158,000 patients were seen by NHS dentists in the last count, a rise of 23,000 patients, or 17 per cent.

NHS Medway's dental services manager Annie Godden said: "The PCT has dedicated the last two years to promoting NHS dentists available in the area and the importance of oral health for all ages.

"We are delighted with the number of residents visiting Medway's NHS dentists.

"There will always be a section of the community who will want to go for private dental care but our message is – if you need an NHS dentist, Medway can provide one."

While Medway PCT's dental service is on the up, the national and overall Kent picture shows a steady decline in access to treatment.

The total number of patients seen in England has sunk from 56 per cent to 52 per cent – down almost four per cent from

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3

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1 Bob Geldof takes a trip to the seaside. See web TV site www.yourkenttv.co.uk and search 'Geldof'.



2 Threshold is a most intimate drama experience. See web TV site www.yourkenttv.co.uk and see the leisure channel.



3 The second part of an insight into Ashford cattle market. See web TV site www.yourkenttv.co.uk and search 'cattle'.

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Cab spy cams will make taxi drivers safer

■ BY SIMON ROBINSON

TAXI drivers have called for urgent funding to install CCTV cameras to watch passengers in their cabs.

The cameras aim put an end to the assaults, robberies and run-aways which they face on a weekly basis.

The proposal has been put to Medway Council by the area's taxi driver associations.

It claims the cameras will also give passengers greater confidence their journeys will be safe.

CCTV cameras have been installed in Gravesend cabs following the murder of driver Gian Chand Bajar, who was assaulted and run over in May last year.

The kit was funded by the police, the European Union, the council and the drivers themselves.

Medway cabbies said the cameras are needed urgently in our towns.

Independent Taxi Drivers' Association committee member Ralph Jouxson said: "I totally agree with the need for CCTV cameras – we've been asking for them for years.

Threats

"We have to put up with fare dodgers and taxi drivers are often robbed and threatened with knives.

"A lot of drivers are packing up doing nights because of the constant threats they're receiving.

"It was averaging one incident per week. There was a spate of attacks a few months back.

"Drivers are still getting people being abusive.

"The cameras would make a massive difference – if the customers knew they were being filmed they'd be less likely to pull out a knife or rob the driver.

"Cameras are very popular among drivers."

In a joint letter to Medway Council bosses, Chatham and Aylesford MP Jonathan Shaw and Medway Labour party leader Paul Godwin lent their support to the camera scheme.



SAFER: Jonathan Shaw MP supports cabbies in their bid to get CCTV installed in taxis

They wrote: "CCTV is a preventative measure – people are far less likely to attack taxi drivers, or to run off without paying if they know they are being filmed.

"Equally, it gives passengers confidence that their journeys will be safe. It also means, should there be an incident, the police have an excellent chance of finding the perpetrators and securing a conviction.

"Medway's drivers feel CCTV would be of assistance, as sadly there have been several attacks on drivers in the area, and there is a growing problem with passengers leaving without paying.

"We are therefore calling on the council to give this issue its fullest consideration, and to properly investigate all methods of funding this proposal."

A council spokeswoman declined to comment.

yourmedway

NEWS IN BRIEF

Review gives top grade for social care

THE council's adult social care services have been awarded a top-of-the-scale three star rating in its annual review.

The service – which helps the elderly, those with mental health problems and people with learning, physical or sensory disabilities – was given the grade by the Commission for Social Care Inspection. Inspectors found the department 'excellent' in its 'capacity for improvement', which deals with areas such as management style and the use of resources.

Cops close Asda after coded security alert

THE ASDA superstore in Chatham was closed for nearly two hours yesterday after a security scare.

Police were called to the Maidstone Road supermarket at 11am after staff received a coded message.

ASDA bosses led hundreds of shoppers to a corner of the car park away from the building while police officers launched an investigation into the call.

Kent police's tactical support unit scoured the aisles for a suspicious package but nothing was found.

The store re-opened at 12.50pm.

Suite makes diagnosis easier on patients

A NEW endoscopy suite will open at Medway Maritime Hospital this weekend, giving patients improved care, privacy and dignity.

The suite will be used for diagnostic or treatment purposes for problems with lungs, the colon, stomach and bladder from 11am on Saturday.

An endoscope is a thin, flexible tube that contains both a light source and a video camera, which relays images of the inside of the patient's body.

Teaching good sports

A SPORTING academy will open its doors next year giving talented youngsters the chance to develop their skills across a range of disciplines.

The multi-partnership Medway Sporting Academy will induct 80 of the most promising Medway athletes – giving them the support they need to hone their abilities. It has been set up as part of Medway council's 2012 London Olympic Games plans.

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Sherlock's curse hits filming at Dockyard

Injury to star and blaze add to Richie woes

BY SIMON ROBINSON

DIRECTOR Guy Ritchie will be hoping his last day of filming in Medway is accident-free – after two incidents blocked the shooting of Sherlock Holmes.

Ritchie, who recently divorced pop diva Madonna, has seen late-night filming of the Hollywood blockbuster completely shut down at Chatham Historic Dockyard twice in the past two weeks.

Luckily, there is just 24 hours filming to be completed at the former naval base later this month, before the entire crew heads off for New York in the New Year.

The shoot was first brought to a halt when seven-foot tall, 25-stone wrestler-turned-actor Robert Maillet accidentally knocked out Iron Man star Robert Downey Jr – who plays the famous detective in the big budget film – with a crushing right hook.

A national newspaper said the 43-year-old lead was "out cold" for six seconds and "drowning



Pictures PHIL HOUGHTON/JIM CLARKE

INCIDENT: Chatham Historic Dockyard has been shut down twice during the late-night filming of Sherlock Holmes

blood" before medics could bring him round.

A nurse on set gave Downey Jr six stitches in his lower lip to stem the blood loss.

The second incident took place on Friday evening when the entire cast – including Jude Law who plays Holmes' sidekick Dr Watson – had to flee the set when a petrol tanker exploded.

The fully-loaded vehicle burst into flames during a delivery to the set, forcing it to close for two hours.

A source on set said: "The crew have started joking about the curse of Sherlock Holmes."

Scenes for the film are being shot at night in Covered Slip 7, which has been transformed into a Victorian shipyard.

The thriller sees Downey Jr and Law take on

their mysterious new adversary Lord Blackwood, played by Mark Strong, who also starred in Guy Ritchie's previous offering RocknRolla.

Mean Girls and Wedding Crashers actress Rachel McAdams stars as Irene Adler, the only woman to have ever bested Holmes and who has maintained a tempestuous relationship with the sleuth.

Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's Sherlock Holmes has been a regular fixture on television and film screens, with Peter Cushing most notably taking on the title role in the 1959 film version of The Hound of The Baskervilles.

Guy Ritchie's Sherlock Holmes is set for release in November 2009.

Caged for sick sex images

A PAEDOPHILE caught with more than 5,000 images of children being sexually abused has been jailed for a year.

Wayne Green, 51, from Gillingham, came to the attention of the Child Exploitation and Online Protection Centre (CEOP) when his name was listed along with 21 others in the UK who had subscribed to a pay-per-view site.

The website allowed paedophiles to view images of children suffering sickening abuse.

Some of the 5,000 images Green downloaded were classed as Level Five – the most serious category depicting sadism or bestiality with children.

He pleaded guilty to 19 charges of making indecent images and was sentenced at Maidstone Crown Court on Monday.

Paul Fotheringham, head of Kent police's public protection unit, said: "We work with many partner agencies, including CEOP, to tackle this type of horrific offence."

When Green is released from prison he will be forced to sign the sex offenders register for ten years.

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Gerri Halliwell turns Bluewater's Christmas lights on. Search 'Gerri'

Finding a dentist is easier in Medway

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

28,144,000 to 27,049,000. The Kent figure has also dropped by 74,752 in just two years.

Dentists could be hit financially as a result of the fall, raising fears this could force a substantial number of NHS practices into the private market.

The concern centres on the points-driven 'units of dental activity' system, introduced in the 2006 NHS dental contract.

A check-up is worth one UDA, while a filling is worth four. A complex treatment such as root canal work is worth 12.

A combination of the decline in patient numbers and "unrealistic" treatment targets could see Kent dentists forced to pay back £1.5 million in UDA handouts.

Figures obtained by private dental company DPAS show 18 per cent of UDAs commissioned by Eastern and Coastal Kent PCT for 2007/2008 went undelivered, the third highest in the country.

Dentists now face a 'claw back' of more than £710,000 to the local NHS.

DPAS chairman Quentin Skinner said: "Where the contract falls down is that there is no financial incentive or reward for dentists to do preventative work. UDA is a clumsy mechanism."

British Dental Association chief executive Peter Ward added: "The findings indicate a likely roll-over effect of failure to meet UDAs so the problem is exacerbated in the following year if a PCT does not adopt a flexible approach to preserving NHS dental services. Claw back of this magnitude will affect viability of NHS dental practices."

Police reveal true crime figures with their new website

MORE than 60 crimes were carried out every day in Medway during the last year.

The shocking data was revealed on Kent police's new crime-mapping section of the force's website.

The page shows 22,393 crimes occurred across Medway during the last 12 months – which is 61 crimes every day on average.

Anti-social behaviour made up the bulk of this number, with 15,474 incidents recorded between December 2007 and 2008.

There were 4,297 cases of 'violence against the person', more than 3,000 vehicle crimes and more than 2,000 burglaries.

The website also gives a detailed breakdown of the crimes committed in each Medway ward during the same period.

Gillingham South saw 2,212 reported crimes, Chatham Central 1,747 and Strood South 1,637.

Chief Inspector Martin Cunningham of Kent police's

neighbourhood policing team said the website would give a better understanding of real crime levels.

He said: "This new addition to our website means that everyone in Kent can access up-to-date crime figures whenever they want to. They can check crime levels in their own area, and get a better understanding of the reality of crime levels where they live."

"It will help people see the real crime levels, which are often much lower than they think."

The launch of Kent police's crime-mapping page follows on from the Metropolitan Police's launch of their own system.

All forces in the country will soon provide the same kind of facility on their websites.

In Kent, the information will be updated monthly to ensure the most recent data can be found by people using the website.

To look at the new section visit www.kent.police.uk.



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NEWS IN BRIEF

Schoolboy escapes from aggressive yob's attack

A MAN who assaulted a schoolboy is being sought by police.

The suspect, thought to be in his late twenties, targeted an 11-year-old boy as he walked home from school along Salisbury Road, Chatham.

The youngster escaped the yob's clutches when a passer-by – who officers are keen to speak to as a witness – intervened.

The man wanted by Medway police is described as white, 6ft 1in, with black hair and a black fringe. He was wearing blue jeans and a blue and black hooded top.

Aftercare clinic ready to service hearing aids

A FREE hearing aid aftercare clinic will be held in Rochester today (Wednesday), giving deaf and hard-of-hearing residents the chance to have their devices cleaned and re-tubed.

The Hi Kent session will be held at Queen Mother Court, Borstal Road, from 9.30am to 11am.

The charity's chief executive John Clayton said: "There's no need to make an appointment, people should just turn up and they will be seen promptly."

Visitors can also get free advice on Hi Kent's range of equipment.

Sick animals will benefit from Christmas fair

A CHRISTMAS fair will be held at Gillingham PDSA PetAid hospital on Saturday to raise money for sick and injured pets.

Last year the hospital treated more than 48,000 pets at a cost of £745,000, all of which was funded by the generosity of the public.

The fun day, which starts at 1pm, will include a tombola, raffle and host of stalls.

Fundraiser Vera Fryer said: "I hope as many people as possible will come along in support."

For more information, call Vera on 01795 843244.

Skydiver Liz raises cash for lung cancer patients

HEALTH worker Liz Griffiths raised more than £800 for mesothelioma sufferers by taking part in a tandem skydive.

The chief respiratory physiologist, based at Medway Maritime Hospital, paid tribute to those who sponsored her jump.

She said: "I would like to say a huge thank you to everyone who sponsored and supported me."

Mesothelioma is a rare and aggressive form of lung cancer caused by exposure to asbestos. There is no known cure.

Burnham sees a beacon amid economic gloom

BY STEVE KNIGHT

THE regeneration of Chatham Historic Dockyard should serve as a "beacon of hope" during the recession, a Government minister has claimed.

Culture Secretary Andy Burnham visited the site to speak to small-business owners and answer questions they had about the pre-Budget report.

Speaking exclusively to KOS Media, the Leigh MP said the dockyard – which employed hundreds of workmen until its closure in 1984 – was proof that the economy was ever-changing.

He said: "Here you have one major site that when it closed caused a lot of unemployment in the area, but in its place has risen a community full of micro-businesses that are working together and doing well. That gives us hope for the future."

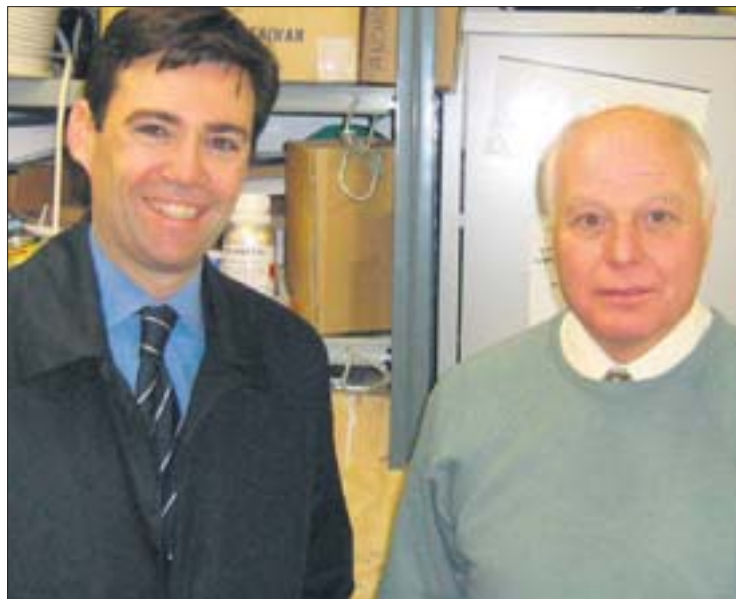
"Seeda (South East England Development Agency) has been very helpful in assisting the dockyard's regeneration and will continue to do so."

"Talking to people in the small businesses, it seems the area appears to be on the up and that is a very welcome thing."

Mr Burnham, 38, visited three businesses – Handrail Design, Netsite and Anchor Signs – and received varying accounts of how the recession was affecting them.

He said: "It's crucial that we get out and speak to people. We ministers can sit in a room and talk all we like, but unless we discuss the problems out in the real world we won't know the true effects they are having."

"We want to be fluid and fair, so we are listening to what people say and trying to



ANDY THERE: Culture Secretary Andy Burnham, with Alan Bates of Anchor Signs, during his visit to Chatham Historic Dockyard

come up with practical solutions to lessen the pain."

Chancellor Alistair Darling delivered his pre-Budget report to the House of Commons the day before Mr Burnham's visit and announced that VAT would be reduced to 15 per cent in an attempt to get people spending again.

While agreeing the drop will likely lead to

higher prices in the future, the Culture Secretary said the decision was a necessary one to take.

During his visit to the dockyard he was also given an update on the progress of its National Museums project. A new centre at the docks will eventually house model collections from the National Maritime Museum and the Imperial War Museum.

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Charitable Millen returns to her roots

FASHION designer Karen Millen returned to her roots to give a lecture on a charity project she has been working on at the University for the Creative Arts.

The internationally-renowned designer – who studied at the Rochester campus – then known as Kent Institute of Art and Design – returned for an international development seminar on Wednesday, last week.

Ms Millen, who lives at Watlington, near Maidstone, spoke about the Gateway School of Fashion, which she helped set up in South Africa to teach those affected by HIV and poverty a range of new skills.

Ms Millen said: "It's been an incredible

journey, from the initial talk about the concept to actually ending the first year of the school on a high. It's been a total success."

UCA fashion lecturer Sheelagh Wright, who was Ms Millen's mentor and also instrumental in the school's development, said: "It offers a one-year course in fashion skills to a community that has been affected by HIV and poverty."

"Myself, Karen, HopeHIV and UCA has been involved in the project for the two-and-a-half years. The school delivers fashion skills in designing, pattern cutting and creating fabrics, so students can create garments to sell and earn an income."

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HIGH AND MIGHTY: This shot shows two Rochester Riverside sites, which are part of the Thames Gateway project

Towns urged to combine as one future supercity

LEADING architect Sir Terry Farrell has called on the Medway towns to combine to form a major new city – a move he says will seal the area's future.

The Medway design champion unveiled his vision at the two-day Thames Gateway Forum held in London last week.

Launching his in-depth 'Five Towns Make a City' report, Sir Terry said the river, which gave the area such a vibrant history, would play an integral part in its future.

Speaking at London's Excel exhibition centre, the architect said: "Medway's successful future depends on reconnecting the towns to the river, investment in landscape-based and environmental regeneration projects, and respect for the area's unique built heritage."

His report goes on: "There is a strong possibility that the Medway towns can – if local people agree – be combined to form a 'new' city, drawing strength from their existing characters."

"This should be based on the areas' abundant natural and cultural assets, to realise Medway's enormous potential."

"Five towns can make one new city. And what a city it can be. Medway could be, once again, a world-leading example of something really special."

During the forum it emerged that Medway

■ BY SIMON ROBINSON

Council has secured £73 million in Government cash to develop the area's infrastructure during the next two years.

The only proposals knocked back by Thames Gateway minister Margaret Beckett were the cable car, which would link Strood, Rochester, Chatham and Chatham Maritime, and the Chatham waterfront theatre complex.

Sir Terry, who also acts as advisor to the Thames Gateway project and Kent County Council, said Medway should pursue the cable car idea.

He said: "I think it should be fought for. It's getting the idea in people's heads for where you are going."

"I have always thought that cable car as a form of transport is a particularly good idea. It should be done."

"It will come about. You do not have the budget right now. Keep it on the plans."

In a keynote speech, Ms Beckett said the regeneration region was not immune to the economic difficulties but it was in a strong position to weather the storm.

She said that the Thames Gateway, backed with a £9.6 billion investment, is a prime example of how Government intervention and support is helping deal with the global economic pressures.

Good evening, hello and welcome back

FORMER Gillingham schoolboy Sir David Frost returned to Medway to receive an honorary degree from the University of Kent.

The veteran broadcaster was awarded the Doctor of Letters title during the university's degree ceremony at Rochester Cathedral.

Sir David said: "It's been a great experience. The University of Kent could not have made it a better day. And it was great to be back in the Medway towns."

To view Sir David's Rochester Cathedral appearance, visit our broadband TV website yourkenttv.co.uk and search 'frost'.

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NEWS IN BRIEF

Lollipop man Bill in national final

LOLLIPOP man Bill Thomas is hoping to be named top of the 'pops' after reaching the finals of the UK Lollipop Person of the Year award.

Bill, 77, scooped the regional title of the contest, with judges impressed by his work in ensuring Hempstead infants get to and from school safely.

The dedicated worker has spent five years helping pupils cross the busy roads near the Gillingham school.

His progress through the competition has been supported by many of the youngsters, who sent in poems, paintings and drawings endorsing his good work.

Headteacher Kate Dadd said: "Bill is dedicated to his job and to the children and for that we all love him."

Mr Thomas won £500 in travel vouchers and a £100 book voucher for the school by picking up the regional title.

If he goes on to scoop the UK award he will win a £1,500 holiday, £200 book vouchers for the school and a visit from Britain's Got Talent winner George Sampson.

Drink-drive campaign launched by police

DRINK-drivers in Medway and Swale are being targeted by police as part of a safer winter campaign.

Officers launched the hard-hitting Christmas Mourning? Drinking and Driving Wrecks Lives initiative last week.

During the campaign, officers will carry out roadside tests to check co-ordination and spatial awareness of drivers whose ability to drive they suspect may be impaired by drink or drugs.

Motorists are also being reminded that they could still be over the legal limit the morning after drinking, even though they may feel able to drive.

CPS's 'flexible' move

THE Crown Prosecution Service has moved into Medway police's Gillingham headquarters.

The move, on Monday, is part of the service's modernisation and restructuring programme.

Medway and North Kent prosecution team assistant crown prosecutor Lisa Brown said: "This will build on our strengths, create greater efficiencies and help us meet the demands of the future."

"It will also increase our flexibility and complement the service we are offering to the police, our partner agencies and the public."

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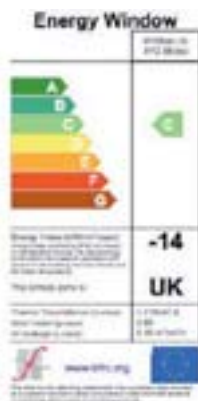
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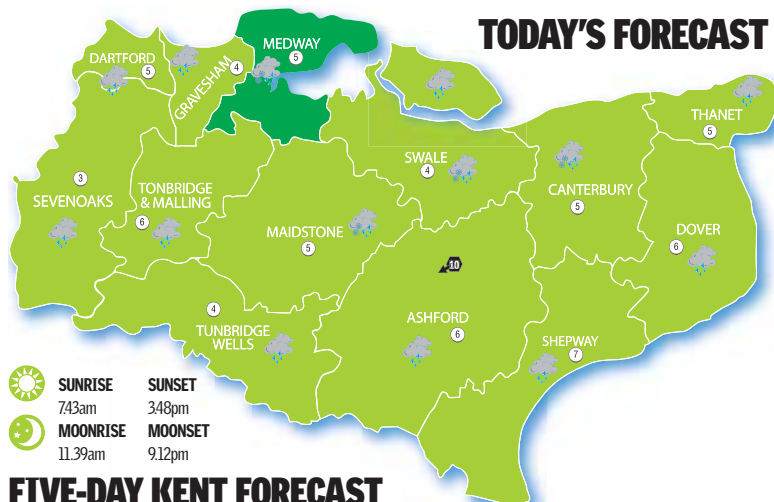
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	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon		Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon
Ashford	6°C	5°C	8°C	7°C	7°C	Gravesend	6°C	5°C	8°C	8°C	8°C
Canterbury	5°C	5°C	8°C	7°C	7°C	Maidstone	5°C	5°C	8°C	8°C	8°C
Chatham	6°C	5°C	8°C	8°C	8°C	Ramsgate	5°C	5°C	8°C	7°C	7°C
Dartford	6°C	5°C	8°C	8°C	8°C	Rochester	6°C	5°C	8°C	8°C	8°C
Dover	5°C	6°C	7°C	7°C	7°C	Sevenoaks	4°C	3°C	7°C	6°C	6°C
Faversham	6°C	5°C	8°C	8°C	8°C	Sittingbourne	6°C	5°C	8°C	8°C	8°C
Folkestone	5°C	6°C	7°C	7°C	7°C	Tonbridge	5°C	5°C	8°C	8°C	7°C
Gillingham	6°C	5°C	8°C	8°C	8°C	Tun Wells	5°C	5°C	8°C	8°C	7°C

WEEKEND HIGH TIDES

Chatham	Saturday	4:38pm	5.2m
	Sunday	5:27pm	5.0m
Dover	Saturday	2:46pm	5.6m
	Sunday	3:42pm	5.4m
Dungeness	Saturday	2:40pm	6.6m
	Sunday	3:30pm	6.4m
Ramsgate	Saturday	3:16pm	4.2m
	Sunday	4:12pm	4.1m
Sheerness	Saturday	4:27pm	5.0m
	Sunday	5:16pm	4.9m
Whitstable	Saturday	4:30pm	4.7m
	Sunday	5:24pm	4.5m

AROUND THE WORLD YESTERDAY

Amsterdam	5°C	Madrid	6°C
Athens	17°C	New York	4°C
Barcelona	12°C	Paris	5°C
Beijing	12°C	Rome	16°C
Bombay	30°C	Sydney	31°C
Cape Town	27°C	Tenerife	21°C
Cardiff	5°C	Tokyo	12°C
Gibraltar	12°C	Vancouver	11°C
Hong Kong	21°C	Warsaw	10°C
Las Palmas	19°C	Wellington	19°C

Be careful who you let in, warn police

RESIDENTS have been urged by police to be cautious of bogus cold callers following the conviction of a serial burglar.

The advice follows the conviction of Paul O'Hare, of Meadow Bank Road in Chatham.

O'Hare was convicted of four distraction burglaries at Maidstone Crown Court and sentenced to six years behind bars.

He sometimes posed as a window cleaner in order to gain access to people's properties.

A police spokesman said: "We are keen to remind people to be cautious when allowing visitors entry into their home."

"The advice is 'stop, chain, check'. Use the door bar or chain before you open the door."

"Always ask to see identification and if you have any doubts about a caller or are not expecting anyone do not let them in, even if they say they know you."

"Ask the caller to show you proof of their identity, then check the caller is genuine by ringing the company using the telephone number in the phone book, not on the card."

"If a caller is genuine they will understand the need to check and will not mind waiting. If you are worried call the police."



CONMAN: Paul O'Hare

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QUESTION & ANSWER

MOIRA HYDE



Q What is the history of the group?

A The WEA began in 1903, at a time when there was no educational provision for working class adults. Democratic choice was established, whereby students have a say in the courses offered, that choice is continued through the branch programme to this day.

Q How did you first get involved with the organisation?

A I began as tutor on a women and health course in Deal and I developed a community and health action programme in Dover.

Q What sorts of courses are run by the WEA and how are they organised?

A The branch programme is organised by student volunteers who hold meetings in their localities to review the programme and decide what they want to offer in the future. It is then my role to provide professional tutors, and to oversee and support the programmes.

The community programme in Kent includes health, wellbeing and parenting courses, some of which are accredited through the Open College Network. Alongside this programme we offer IT, numeracy, and literacy courses. We also offer courses to adults with learning difficulties. All of these courses are designed and adapted to meet the needs of particular groups. In addition, we have a workplace programme, offered in partnership with Unison, offering courses that meet the needs of specific groups of workers.

Q What do you think adult courses offer to people?

A Our branch programme offers people the chance to learn what they want to learn, in venues selected by their branch volunteers, with tutors who are experts in their particular fields. Many of our students have been with us for decades and are proud of the WEA tradition of lifelong learning.

Our community programme aims to reach people who may have had a negative experience of school or live in disadvantaged areas. The first stage is normally confidence-building, helping people identify and express their own needs and where they want to go. We then point our students towards progression routes, with the WEA or other learning providers.

We have many examples of courses changing people's lives. Every student completes an evaluation form so we are able to gauge how well they have learnt and how they have responded to the course.

Q How do people go about finding what courses are in their area?

A The southern regional office is in Rochester and there is a telephone number for all enquiries: 0800 3281060. People can also look at our website: wea.org.uk/southern or they can email us at southern@wea.org.uk.

Q What is the government's commitment to lifelong learning?

A The WEA is recognised and supported by central and local government. At present,

the government is prioritising vocational courses, numeracy, literacy and skills for life courses. All at the WEA would like there to be more recognition of the social value of lifelong learning courses, which make up the majority of our branch programme and provide a lifeline to many students.

Q Is modern technology a help or hindrance to what you do? Do people really need to go on courses in this day and age of the internet?

A Courses provide an opportunity for our students to meet like-minded people and share ideas. The internet provides a wealth of information but I don't think it comes close to the experience of researching your subject by doing the foot-work and sharing it with a group of students, who are there because they want to be there. I am very worried about the isolation that is spreading among communities, much of which can be attributed to over-reliance on technology. On balance, I would say modern technology is a great help but it can never replace the energy and social-interaction of a classroom.

Q Do you have any heroes that have inspired you in life?

A I was inspired by the community arts movement in the 1980s, and some of the tutors who taught me that, however skilled or knowledgeable we are, creativity is central to personal and social development. Unfortunately this is hard to measure by ticking boxes and so it falls off the agenda all too often.

Q & A

The tutor organiser for the Kent branch of adult education specialists the Workers' Educational Association (WEA), which provides courses on a range of subjects across the county, talks to **Ed Hill**

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Union members in Dover take to the streets to stop lorries in a dispute over jobs at the docks. Search 'strike'



Discover the history of one of the county's most famous cattle markets. Search 'cattle'



Why boats had to be launched sideways at one historic dockyard. Search 'sideways'



A new state-of-the-art café opens for business at the end of one of the county's best-loved piers. Search 'pier'

EDITOR'S CHOICE

You can view all these videos and others from around the county with the click of a mouse at...

yourkenttv.co.uk

PLAYTIME: From left, Elmo, High School Musical sing-along microphone, FurReal Tumbles, Wall-E, Guitar RockStar, Buzz Lightyear, Clone Wars helmet, and below, Mack and Lightning McQueen



Present buying is child's play

KOS Media and Kent's largest shopping centre have come up with a list of the hottest toys this festive season for parents looking for inspiration.

With help from Bluewater shops John Lewis and the Disney Store, we tried and tested the top gifts that are going to be flying off the shelves this Christmas.

You can see the toys in action in a video clip on Yourkenttv.

The Disney store offers great toys inspired by their famous films and TV programmes.

The release of Disney's High School Musical 3: Senior Year, in October, had youngsters booking their cinema seats weeks in advance.

The High School Musical Sing-along Microphone, priced at £10, will give wannabe Zach and Vanessa the chance to practice the film's hit songs anywhere and anytime.

Youngsters who prefer engines to musicals will enjoy the Radio Controlled Mack and Lightning McQueen, £20, from the Disney film Cars.

■ BY ANNA WHITE

The infra-red remote-controlled model of loveable character Wall-E, which costs £20, is also expected to be a top-seller.

Despite Disney film Toy Story being released in 1995, Buzz Lightyear remains a firm favourite this Christmas. The talking version of the animated toy superhero appears on the most-wanted list, for £15.

John Lewis offer gifts for youngsters and adults, making it the perfect destination to tick off the majority of your Christmas list.

For children wanting a pet dog but without having to train or clean it, the FurReal Tumbles my rollover pup will allow them to love and care for it just as they would a real dog. The fluffy animal, which costs £29.95, rolls over and listens to commands.

Elmo from the children's

TV programme Sesame Street, can share his stories and jokes with lucky youngsters this Christmas.

The life-like Elmo Live moves when he speaks and interacts with his owner. He is £59.95 from John Lewis.

Music-lovers can practice their guitar moves on the road or entertain at a family get-together during the festive season with the Guitar RockStar, for £14.99.

To complete the list, fans of the Star Wars movies can look and sound like one of the Clone Wars Troopers, for £29.99, with a voice-changing helmet.

The authentic mask helmet features popular phrases and a radio static button to help achieve the full affect.

Bluewater Christmas opening hours are 10am to 10pm Monday to Friday, 9am to 9pm on Saturday, and 11am to 5pm on Sunday.

Order online at www.johnlewis.com or www.disney-store-shopping.co.uk.

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Anna White tries out all the toys for herself. Search 'toys'

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ON SCREEN

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BY JANE CONNOLLY

CHILDREN from the Liz Burville Performing Arts Centre will be flying high in Dartford this Christmas.

An integral part of Peter Pan, the Orchard Theatre's pantomime, the young actors from the Bexley centre will be bringing the magic to life as the Darling family, the Lost Boys and other characters.

Principal Liz Burville has been involved with the Orchard's Christmas shows for about 20 years, either as a dancer, choreographer or provider of talented young performers.

"The children are all very excited," she said. "Most of them are quite experienced, which is probably why we are asked to take part each year."

"The children get very involved in rehearsals and it is a bit more demanding this year, particularly for the four boys playing Michael and John Darling."

The key characters were handpicked by the show's director and star, comedian Joe Pasquale, and rehearsals got under way on November 24. Aged between six and 13, the children show remarkable discipline and talent for ones so young.

During performances the young cast are looked after by chaperones who are mostly parents of students. Some regularly offer their services, even if their own children are not appearing in the show.

"The chaperones have as much fun as the kids," Ms Burville said. "When there is a break between two performances, they go out and Dartford gets hit by a bevy of excited children, singing all the songs from the shows. They're good kids and they do as they're told."

For Ms Burville, the opportunity to take part in the show is not only great fun for her students, but can also be an inspiration for other children in the area.

"It's especially good for the local schools, who will have received leaflets about the pantomime," she said. "It's really exciting to think that these kids can be in a high-profile production and other children can come along and enjoy it too, particularly as they can see people

Little Darlings and Lost Boys of pantomime



REHEARSALS: Liz Burville (right) says the children at her performing arts centre are rehearsing hard they know appearing in it."

Like many people who help to keep Kent's pantomime tradition alive, Ms Burville believes that providing children with a good first experience of theatre will affect them for the rest of their lives.

"Once a child has been exposed to live theatre, hopefully they will want to see more of it," she said.

• Peter Pan is running at the Orchard Theatre, Dartford, from this Friday until Sunday January 11. To book tickets call the box office on 01322 220000 or visit the website at www.orchardtheatre.co.uk.

Don't miss Captain Hook's online look behind the scenes as the cast prepares for this year's pantomime. Actor Alex Giannini reveals all online

Family and friends give thanks for a 'wonderful' man

TRIBUTES were paid to former KCC leader Lord Sandy Bruce-Lockhart during a thanksgiving service at Canterbury Cathedral on Thursday.

Lord Bruce-Lockhart, who stepped down as council leader in 2005, died on August 14 after a long battle with cancer.

Hundreds of friends, family members, former colleagues and politicians gathered for the cathedral service.

Michael Howard, MP for Folkestone and Hythe, said Lord Bruce-Lockhart had a "remarkable" political career.

After the service, Labour MP Ruth Kelly described him as "absolutely wonderful", adding she had a good working relationship with him, in spite of their different political backgrounds. "He wanted to do what was right," she said.

Local government minister John Healey said: "He was a great figure in local government. In many ways he had so much more to offer to the country."

The service was led by the Very Rev Robert Willis, the Dean of Canterbury Cathedral, and there were readings by Harriet Creelman, Lord Bruce-Lockhart's niece, and old friend Chris Gosling.

Lord Bruce-Lockhart became a county councillor for Maidstone Rural East in 1989. He led KCC for eight years from 1997, was knighted in 2002, made chairman of the Local Government Association in 2004 and became a life peer in 2006.

In 2007 he was appointed chairman of English Heritage.



REMARKABLE:

Lord Sandy Bruce-Lockhart



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yourmedwayblogger

Each week we get a mystery writer to air their views on living in and around Medway...

'Christmas credit crunch is a blessing in disguise'

THE Church of England has picked up where Gordon Brown left off and is advocating prudence this festive season.

While Government ministers scramble to defend the logic of borrowing and spending their way out of recession, the Church has used the convenient timing of Advent to reassure people they can still enjoy Christmas, despite the credit crunch.

In a YouTube video, Archbishop of Canterbury Dr Rowan Williams suggests that instead of being miserable and padding out the days in the run-up to Christmas by eating chocolate from their advent calendars, people might use the time to reflect on the current situation and perhaps find spiritual solace in the Scriptures.

That's all well and good and may work for some, but for others the more orthodox trappings of the festive season – carols around the tree, going and ahing at the school nativity play – only offer a temporary diversion from

the worry of an overloaded credit card statement looming in January, and the fear of not being able to provide a Nintendo Wii under the tree in a few weeks time.

The Bishop of Reading takes a more practical approach and has published a timely book entitled 'Do Nothing, Christmas is Coming', offering helpful hints for celebrating without stressing your credit card, the environment or yourself.

You, like me, may not be a practising Christian, but I still think the bishop might have something here.

If the best bit about Christmas is people giving and receiving gifts to show their love for each other on at least one day of the year (even if they will be arguing over control of the TV remote by the time the Queen's Speech is on), then with a little creativity, the Yuletide spirit can still prevail in hard times.

Why not make Auntie Shirley laugh with a handmade Christmas card? You might not be artistic, but most people can handle a pair of scissors, some glue and glitter. Get the kids involved and make a happy Sunday afternoon

of cutting and pasting your old cards to make new ones. No one can argue against the environmentally-friendly merits of this one and it's so much nicer than a bland, impersonal e-card or text.

And supermarkets are already offering cheap deals on all the seasonal favourites – puddings, pies, beer and chocolate. So instead of buying a gift and then giving a bottle of wine as an extra when you're invited to dinner, make the drink the gift itself. Wrap the organic Cava in a bow, they'll love it.

Or you could make a hamper for your grandparents. Cover a cardboard box in wrapping paper (left over from last year when you bought too much) and fill it with basics and a few goodies they might not buy themselves.

Yes, times are hard. No, you don't have much money. But don't panic, just be creative.

Who knows, like Scrooge, you might even find the joy of Christmas.

• **EDITOR'S NOTE:** All bloggers are supplied with full name and address of the authors. They do not reflect the view of the newspaper but are designed to give our readers the chance to air their views.

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We want to hear your views



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LET US KNOW...

If there is a story in your area you think we should be covering contact the news editor, **Jon Coates**, on 01303 817048 or email him on the details above. If you want to be the next Medway blogger then all you have to do is submit an article to us (of around 550 words) and email it to the news editor. And don't forget, for all the latest news and video from your town log-on to www.yourmedway.co.uk.

Write to The Editor, Yourmedway, KOS Media, Apple Barn, Hythe Road, Smeeth, Ashford, Kent TN25 6SR.

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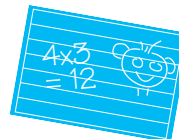
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yourmedwayschools



Partnership set to put pupils on the road to Mandarin

■ BY SIMON ROBINSON

YOUNGSTERS across Medway may soon be learning Mandarin as part of a new partnership with China.

The proposed Eastern lessons come just a week after Medway Council bosses signed a sister city status contract with their counterparts in the Foshan region in China.

The deal took four years to develop and is expected to pave the way to help build stronger links between teachers and students in both countries.

Children's services Cllr Les Wicks, who signed the contract linking Medway with the city of Changcheng, said: "This comes at the end of looking closely at what both cities can offer their young people."

"They are excited by what they have seen so far in Medway and are keen to have their young people develop their learning of English through us."

"Similarly, we see that Changcheng offers a great deal of opportunity which I would be keen to see our children and teachers take advantage of."

"China is very important and Changcheng is one of the most developed parts of that country and is ideal from our point of view."

"I really hope that a lot of young people and teachers will gain a lot from the beginning of this agreement."

Last week, headteachers from eight schools in Medway travelled to Changcheng to start work on joint curriculum projects and gain ideas for promoting the teaching of Chinese in Medway.

During their visit the teachers were paired up with a school similar to their own in Medway and worked on projects to teach the children about the different heritages and culture.

It is expected that teachers and students



CHINESE WAY: Mayor of Medway David Carr (left) and Medway council Cllr Les Wicks with the sister city contract

will have the opportunity to visit their twinned school, establishing long-term friendly partnerships.

Cllr Wicks and Feihu Lin, the director of Changcheng District Education Board, signed the landmark agreement last month during a visit to Chatham Grammar School for Boys.

The sister city status document will be on display in the Mayor's Parlour at the council's headquarters at Gun Wharf in Chatham.

The schools taking part in the Changcheng visit were; Cuxton Community Junior School; All Saints Primary School, Chatham Grammar School for Boys and Bradfields, all Chatham; Rainham School for Girls; Robert Napier Secondary School and Barnsole Infants School, both Gillingham; and Sir Joseph Williamson's Mathematical School, Rochester.

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BREAK TIME



LEAD ACTORS: (Back, from left) In one performance Emma Nolan (18), Ginny Willey (17), Charlotte Cotter (19) and Chevaun Ellis (19) play the bullies to mask-wearing 'outsider', 17 year old Becky Toms (front centre)

Troupe unite to fight bullying

PERFORMING arts students at MidKent College returned to junior school last week to deliver an anti-bullying message to youngsters.

The troupe put on a collection of theatre productions for pupils at Glencoe Junior School in Chatham, all of which had been created by its lead actors.

The imaginative students wrote their acts around the central theme of bullying and incorporated a mask-wearing 'outsider' into each piece.

MidKent's performing arts lecturer Carole Bowles said she was impressed with the results, saying: "The students were asked to create performances suitable for children in years three, four and five."

"They have done remarkably well. The children have loved every minute and appear to have really taken the anti-bullying message of the work on board."

The theatrical pieces will go towards the students' national diploma in performing arts.

SEND your schools news and pictures to yourmedway@kosmedia.co.uk. You can also upload your video clips of schools events on to www.yourkenttv.co.uk

yourcompetition

WIN Get festively fruity with Anchor

'TIS the season to eat, drink and be merry, and here's a great way to get started.

Anchor Real Dairy Cream has teamed up with KOS Media, publishers of this newspaper, to give one lucky reader the chance to win everything they need to make some delicious fruity treats over the festive season.

You'll have all you need for you and your festive little squirts to get cooking, including: a complete baking set for kids, a kid's cook book, a smoothie maker, some great festive jelly moulds, plus some aprons so you and the kids can get as creative as you like with all your favourite fruits.

And as if that wasn't enough, you'll also receive some Anchor Real Dairy

Cream to get everyone into the Christmas spirit.

Created especially for the yuletide season, there are three delicious Limited Edition flavours of Anchor Real Dairy Cream this Christmas, just the thing to cover everyone's taste.

There's Anchor Extra Thick with Brandy Real Dairy Cream, a favourite with dads, Anchor Extra Thick Real Dairy Cream, a luxury treat for all occasions and Anchor Chocolate Flavour

Mousse, the perfect way to make fruit fun for kids over the Christmas period.

All three flavours go deliciously well with your favourite seasonal winter fruits and there's never been a better time to get festively fruity now Anchor has launched its 'We Love Festive Little Squirts' campaign bursting with easy to prepare recipes.

To enter, simply answer the question below and send your entry on a postcard along with your e-mail address (if applicable), name, address, and day-time telephone number to Anchor Comp, KOS Media, Apple Barn, Smeeth, Ashford, Kent, TN25 6SR. The closing date is December 12, 2008.

Question: Which flavour of Anchor Real Dairy Cream will be a favourite with dads this Christmas?

- a) Anchor Extra Thick with Brandy Real Dairy Cream
b) Anchor Extra Thick Real Dairy Cream
c) Anchor Chocolate Flavour Mousse

For more fruity recipe ideas to try with your festive little squirts see www.anchorsquirtymoments.co.uk.

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TALK TIME

CARL WOODMAN

The Salvation Army band member talks about how he got involved with the group and their new CD, Together



Tell us about yourself.

I live in Rochester with my wife Carolyn and our son. My parents are Salvation Army officers (ministers) who are now retired. I gained a music degree at Kingston Polytechnic but fell into a career in distribution. Having reached my 40s, I decided on a career change and looked for something where I could give something back and so joined Salvationist Publishing and Supplies (part of Salvation Army Trading Company Ltd.) where I am now business development manager.

How long have you been involved with the Salvation Army band?

I first became a Salvation Army bandsman in 1978 at the age of 16. I've been a member of The International Staff Band of The Salvation Army (the ISB, the band on the Together CD) for 16 years. All members are volunteers. I have been a member of Chatham Citadel Salvation Army Band since I moved into the area in 2000.

Tell us about the CD and how it came about.

The ISB normally records for the SP&S label (owned by the company I now work for) but Together has been made with Universal Classics and Jazz, part of one of the largest media groups in the world.

The Salvation Army was approached by Universal with a view to making a CD with mainstream appeal but utilising a Salvation Army band and thereby propelling Salvation Army fund-raising to a new level. Representatives from Universal came to one of the band's rehearsals, liked what they heard, and the project was born. The CD is widely available in high street stores, supermarkets or on the internet.

• Find out about The International Staff Band are at www.theisb.com or The Salvation Army in Chatham at www.chathamssa.org.uk.

YOUR LETTERS

Cheerful and happy face is a real tonic

I would like to praise the lady you employ giving out your newspaper every Wednesday morning at Rochester Station. Come rain or shine she is always there and tremendously cheerful and happy. She is a real tonic in these times of doom and gloom.

Many thanks!

Mark Snoswell,
by email.

Editor's reply: Your kind words have been passed on to the lady in question, Sylvia Plumb.

You are the second commuter in recent months to contact us to commend her welcoming, positive attitude, which is great to see.

We rely on our distribution teams to be the public face of our papers and they do a fantastic job. Thank you for your message Mr Snoswell and I hope you continue to enjoy picking up your copy of Yourmedway from Sylvia.

Rail fare hike is an excessive increase

I read with interest MP Paul Clark's justification for the higher rate of increase to fares in the South East and I am afraid it just doesn't wash.

He says it reflects investment into services in the South East.

He must be aware of the colossal sums spent on modernising the West Coast Mainline, which has several times run over time and over budget, and resulted in significant levels of compensation being paid to Virgin trains, adding even further to the cost.

Despite this, their protected



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fares were only increased by the standard formula of inflation plus one per cent compared to ours of inflation plus three per cent.

Much of the investment he referred to has been on high

speed services into London St Pancras. Very few of Mr Clark's own constituents in Gillingham and Rainham work in north London but are expected to pay premium fares for a high speed service to a station they do not

Watchdog hits out at rail price increase



wish to go to, and then waste the time saved by taking the Tube back to where they want to be.

Mr Clark says Government policy is to recoup more of the cost of travel from passengers rather than use taxpayers to subsidise them.

This is true, but why is it more true in the South East than elsewhere?

In 1974 when times were also tough, Denis Healey, Chancellor of the Exchequer to the Callaghan Government, increased fares in the South East by significantly more than anywhere else in the country, and was quoted in the papers saying "he would squeeze the rich commuters in the South East until the pips squeaked".

As a result, even when fares are increased uniformly across the country, south eastern commuters pay more in real terms because they are paying a higher rate per mile than elsewhere ... and so Mr Clark, the pips were squeaking then, and they are squeaking now.

Brigita Amey,
from Gillingham, by email.

Lights are making traffic a nightmare

With the demolition of the Sir John Hawkins flyover looming, I

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would like to point out the flawed traffic light sequencing in Chatham which makes congestion worse in the town.

Traffic surveys and computer modelling, combined with experienced traffic engineers, should make the task of getting it right a lot easier. But I am surprised to see the council is unable to get the sequence of the lights correct at the junction of the Brook and Military Road.

If I was in any way suspicious, I would believe this was done on purpose to make traffic problems pre-demolition worse than they actually are and show how well the traffic would flow if the removal of the Sir John Hawkins flyover had gone ahead all those months ago.

Anyway, we will now see in not so many weeks time if the traffic in Central Chatham will move faster. So it's watch this space time.

Cllr Stephen Kearney,
Liberal Democrat councillor
for Gillingham South ward,
by email.

Did caring Barry get his thank you letter?

A residential home at 25 Park Avenue in Gillingham closed a few months ago.

One of the staff named Barry left and a thank you letter was left in the office in the hope he would call in to collect it.

I wrote it on behalf of a resident who lived there. I have now written to several authorities but no-one knows if Barry received the letter. I would like anyone who knew

Barry or knows where he works to get in touch. I would like to think someone cares enough to assure me Barry received his letter so I can pass this news on to the resident I wrote it for.

Bridget Perry,
from Dartford, by letter.

Eat warm, well and healthy this winter

With the cold winter weather, many of your readers might feel in need of some warming comfort foods.

But many traditional comfort foods can be high in fat, which is bad news for the waistline.

If we are putting on weight, this can also have an impact on our cancer risk as scientists say that, after not smoking, maintaining a healthy weight is the most important thing you can do for cancer prevention.

Traditional comfort foods can be high in salt too and having too much salt also probably increases your risk of stomach cancer.

At World Cancer Research Fund (WCRF) we have put together a Healthy Comfort Foods recipe booklet, proving you can transform your favourite comfort foods into nutritious and tasty feasts by making a few simple changes.

We are offering the booklet for free to the first 100 readers who call 020 73434205 and quote 'media'.

To find out more about WCRF and read more of our tasty winter recipes, visit our website at www.wcrf-uk.org/recipes

Lisa Cooney, head of education for the World Cancer Research Fund, by email.

Urge your MP to give animals a voice

I am writing to you about the problem of status dogs – an issue the RSPCA is currently campaigning on.

Dogs used as weapons are becoming increasingly popular in urban gangs. Indeed, the RSPCA saw a 15-fold increase in the number of complaints about dog fighting between 2004-2007.

These dogs can suffer terrible injuries through dog fighting or cruelty, including in some cases physical violence inflicted by their owners.

Such dogs are also used to intimidate, fight or even attack people and other animals (often other dogs and cats) and this has a huge impact on communities.

The society is urging readers to lobby their MP and ask them to put their name forward for the Private Members Bill ballot, taking place on December 11.

Alternatively you can go to the website www.giveanimalsavoice.org.uk for more information.

Readers could also write to the minister responsible at Defra, Jane Kennedy MP, to ask her to consider updating the law.

RSPCA animal centres are bulging with unwanted 'status' dogs such as the bull breeds and Staffordshire bull terrier crosses. We need to act now to alleviate this growing crisis, and consolidate the law to protect both dogs and humans.

Paul Stilgoe,
Regional Superintendent for the RSPCA
in the South East, by email.

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My hero worship of Billy isn't just Childish

BY SIMON ROBINSON

CULT rocker Billy Childish is my hero – and he should be yours too.

Here are five reasons why you should cancel all plans you may have for this Friday and take in his performance with The Musicians of the British Empire at The Farmhouse in Canterbury instead:

1. The Chatham-born singer/artist/poet/filmmaker goes under the stage name of Wild Billy Childish, an effortlessly cool pseudonym.

If you or I attempted to adopt such a stage name it would come across as juvenile, pretentious, or worse-case scenario; both juvenile and pretentious. Billy, on the other hand, gets away with it.

2. Billy's gig wardrobe consists of military uniform seemingly lifted straight off the set of classic 60s war film Zulu.

Fellow band members Wolf and Julie also get in on the act, playing along with the Rourke's Drift dress-up before heading on to the stage.

Matching band outfits are nothing new but are often simply adopted as part of a cheap marketing gimmick – think the slick suits sported by The Hives, for instance – but with the Musicians of the British Empire, their get-up seems entirely fitting.

3. Musicians inspired by Billy Childish include late Nirvana frontman and grunge godfather Kurt Cobain, pop royalty Kylie Minogue and Jack and Meg White of The White Stripes fame, to name but a few. Here's your chance to see what these industry greats saw.

4. The music is raw, energetic and – rather importantly – very good. The stripped-down garage rock sound is timeless. Simple riffs and killer hooks provide the backdrop for Billy's no-



ICONIC: Nurse Julie and Wolf join Wild Billy Childish in Rourke's Drift dress-up as The Musicians of the British Empire

nonsense lyrics. Add the band's on-stage chemistry into the equation and you have a winner.

5. Billy does not care what you think of him. Nothing cements a man's status as cult hero more than his unequivocal desire to avoid such a tag. Ironic, don't you think?

The Farmhouse's Matt Gough said he was looking forward to Friday, commenting: "This is it."

"Artist, poet, punk rocker Billy Childish is hitting Canterbury town for a rare gig to celebrate the release of latest album Thatcher's Children, with his stripped down band of Nurse Julie and Wolf – The Musicians of the British Empire.

"The most prolific artist, poet and songwriter of his generation, and the shining jewel in Kent's cultural crown, this is not one to miss."

"This is the gig promised following The Musicians of The British Empire's unfortunate decision they had to make to pull out of Lounge On The Farm 2008."

Support on the night comes from one of the Medway Delta's garage bands, hand-picked by Billy himself – The Armitage Shanks.

Entry costs £10. Doors 8pm to 2am. To buy tickets visit www.loungeonthefarm.co.uk/tickets_billychildish.htm

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Kayley performs the title track from her debut album Chasing Dreams



Hard rock band Tortilla Army perform and talk on The Ether



The Kent chart

1. Steve Furlong - To fall with you (from Birchington)
2. D-FiNiTive - Space (from Tenterden)
3. Kayley Weller - Tonight is going to be our night (from Deal)
4. Ron Bowdery - The Ghostship in sea mist (from New Eltham)
5. Shotgun Junky - Destiny (Maidstone)

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At the end of the cruise we disembark after breakfast in Marseilles and take the TGV to Lille or Paris where we join the Eurostar to St Pancras, London, arriving early-to-mid evening.

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**CHRISTMAS CHEER:** The streets of Rochester will come alive as the town celebrates the festive period with entertainment from Dickensian timesA Dickens of
a Christmas

Town to celebrate author during festive period

JOURNEY back in time and see the festive season through the eyes of a great writer with Rochester's Dickensian Christmas.

This weekend the town will be transporting visitors back to the 1800s for a traditional celebration of Christmas. Rochester will be alive with family entertainment and festivity from Dickens' day, proving the perfect antidote to modern day stresses and worries.

The streets that Dickens explored as a boy will be populated with entertainers and musicians. Visitors will also have the chance to join in with favourite Christmas carols and enjoy a guaranteed snowfall.

The festival actually begins on Friday (Dec 5) with the Grand Mistletoe Ball at the Corn Exchange. A three-course meal will be followed by music from The Donn Barcott Band. Tickets cost £24, to book call 01795 843317.

On Saturday, pick up some bargain Christmas gifts from Bespoke 2008 in The Prince's Hall at the Corn Exchange. Running from 10.30am to 4.30pm, the free event showcases the best of Medway's talented designers and makers.

Father Christmas will be in residence at Rochester Castle Gardens from 11am to 4pm both days, while at 3pm on Saturday Dickens' great,

**ROCHESTER'S
DICKENSIAN CHRISTMAS**Saturday December 6 and Sunday December 7,
various venues in Rochester

great grandson Gerald will perform his acclaimed one-man interpretation of A Christmas Carol at The Queen's Hall.

Ashley Davis will host the sumptuous Bull Dinner at 7.30pm at the Royal Victoria and Bull Hotel and at the same time the Christmas Concert With A Twist will be held at St Margaret's Church, with organist Gavin Williams and friends.

The fun continues on Sunday with John Bromley-Davenport QC's adaptation of A Christmas Carol in the cathedral nave at 1pm. Experience

some real traditional entertainment at 2pm when The Fabulous FezHeads, England's premier sand dance vaudevilian illusionists, will baffle and amuse the audience at The Queen's Hall.

On both days The Seven Poor Travellers' Procession will set off from the Royal Victoria and Bull Hotel at 11am to the Six Poor Travellers' House, in time for the carving of the Christmas turkey. At noon Mayor of Medway, Cllr David Carr, will lead a procession of Dickens' characters and other participants from the junction of High Street and Almon Place to Rochester Castle Gardens.

The candlelit parade sets out from the same spot at 4.45pm, followed by an open-air carol concert overlooking Rochester Cathedral at 5pm. The BAE Systems Brass Band will lead a selection of carols which will be enhancing by a guaranteed snowfall.

Extra entertainment will be taking place at Rochester Castle Gardens both days, including a children's traditional funfair and a Christmas craft fair and there will be services taking place at the Cathedral throughout the weekend. With a wealth of street entertainment and activities at other venues, it should be a spectacular start to the festive season.

A full programme can be downloaded online at www.medway.gov.uk/dickensianchristmas or call Medway Visitor Information Centre on 01634 843666 for more details.FOR MORE THEATRE AND ENTERTAINMENT VISIT @ yourkenttv.co.uk

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PETER PAN

Friday December 5 to Sunday January 11
Orchard Theatre, Dartford

TAKE a magical trip to Neverland in the company of one of Britain's best-loved comics in Peter Pan.

This year's Orchard pantomime is directed by I'm A Celebrity ... Get Me Out Of Here! winner Joe Pasquale, who also stars as Captain Hook's hapless sidekick Smee.

The enchanting show features headstrong fairies, treacherous pirates and ticking crocodiles as we follow the adventures of the boy who never grew up.

Based on JM Barrie's tale of a little boy who could fly, Peter Pan has been a favourite bedtime story for generations. With its combination of fantasy, magic, humour and villainy, the pantomime takes the tale and enhances it with fantastic sets, beautiful costumes, breathtaking 'flying' sequences and a sprinkling of magical Christmas sparkle.

Starring alongside Pasquale is Alex Giannini as Captain Hook, Lila McConigley as Tiger Lily, Charlie Bruce as Wendy, Daniella Gibb as Peter Pan and Kerry Egan as Tinkerbell.

There will also be a host of talented young Kent actors playing the Lost Boys, the Darling family and other important roles.

To book tickets call the box office on 01322 220000 or visit www.orchardtheatre.co.uk.



CINDERELLA

Friday December 12 to Sunday January 4
Central Theatre, Chatham

FORMER EastEnders star Joe Swash will be swinging straight from the jungle to the stage to appear in Cinderella.

At the time of writing, the cheeky Londoner was winning fans in ITV reality show I'm A Celebrity ... Get Me Out Of Here! But he will be leaving the Australian outback behind to wow audiences in Medway this Christmas.

Swash will play the adorable Buttons in the eternally popular pantomime, opposite talented local girl Tara Verloop as the down-trodden heroine.

She successfully auditioned to play Cinders earlier this year and her singing, dancing and acting skills will help to make the family show a big success.

When the beautiful Cinderella is told she must stay at home while everyone else goes to the Prince's glamorous ball, her fairy godmother arrives to make her dreams come true.

With ponies to enchant the children, two hilarious Ugly Sisters and the wicked Baron and Dandini to boo at, Cinderella should prove to be perfect festive entertainment for all the family.

To book tickets call the box office on 01634 338338 or visit www.medway.gov.uk/theatres.



THE MERCURYMEN

Monday December 8
Zebra Bar, Maidstone

THE next Maverick@Zebra showcase is not to be missed, as the headline act comes with high recommendation.

The MercuryMen have a number of celebrity fans, including Coldplay, Brian Wilson and Ryan Adams, and they are tipped to be one of next year's big pop success stories.

Having toured incessantly throughout this year and opened for the likes of Level 42, Melody Gardot and Deacon Blue, the band is now preparing to release its first album in February.

Jinder, Simon Johnson and Gavin Wyatt were already quietly making a splash as solo performers before coming together in 2006.

Wyatt met the legendary producer Mickie Most at just 21 and spent the next four years learning the



craft of songwriting from a great.

Guitar prodigy Johnson joined the Most stable after taking lessons with British guitar hero Albert Lee.

The former lead singer of Candlefire, Jinder has been described by Radio 1's Zane

Lowe as "a significant new talent".

The special guest will be London-based singer/songwriter Lotte Mullan.

The gig starts at 8pm and tickets cost £10 in advance or £12 on the door. To book call 01622 744481.

MEDWAY LEISURE

Theatre to host classic tail of the Pied Piper

ENJOY a riotous rendezvous with some rodents in The Pied Piper – A Tale of Many Tails.

The side-splitting show, featuring lots of songs and fun for all the family, will be staged at the Miskin Theatre, Dartford, from today until Sunday, December 14.

The show is based on the classic story of a mysterious stranger who takes his revenge after a town refuses to pay for services rendered.

Tickets cost £10 for adults and £7.50 for seniors, children and students. To book call 01322 629472.

Journey back in time with Sleeping Beauty

A TIMELESS fairytale meets a modern favourite in Spotlites Theatre Company's Sleeping Beauty & The Time Lords.

Children from five to 12 can take part in the interactive show, helping the Princess to escape from cryogenic sleep with the Doctor and defeat the evil Cyberwitch.

There will be performances at Kings Theatre in High Street, Chatham, on various dates in December. Tickets cost £5.50/£4.50 or £17 for families.

To find out more call 01634 829468 or visit www.spotlites.co.uk.

Sing your heart out or wrack your brains

FIND out if you have the X Factor by taking part in a regular karaoke night in Rochester.

The Kings Head Hotel in High Street hosts an evening for aspiring singers every Tuesday and Friday, from 8pm until late.

Eggheads can test their knowledge at the quiz nights on Wednesdays and there is live entertainment every Sunday.

For more information call the hotel on 01634 831103.

Enjoy a juicy selection of hits from the 60s

LEGENDARY band Juicy Lucy will be demonstrating why they are still fresh at a gig in Aylesford this week.

With its roots in the late 60s, the band plays great original material and is still winning fans in the 21st century. Find out more about them online at www.juicylucyinfo.co.uk.

Juicy Lucy will be playing at the Lower Bell in Chatham Road at 8.30pm on Friday. To find out more call 01634 861127 or visit www.lowerbell.com.

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ON GENERAL RELEASE

FOUR CHRISTMASES (12A)



Be prepared for a crazy Christmas. Reese Witherspoon and Vince Vaughn star as a couple whose plans for an exotic Christmas are thrown into disarray when the airport becomes fog-bound. Instead, they find themselves forced to attend four separate family celebrations on the same day.

BODY OF LIES (15)



A dramatic thriller starring Leonardo DiCaprio as a CIA agent who has tracked a suspected terrorist in Jordan. Now he must trust those he feels will deceive him to get the job done. Also starring Russell Crowe and directed by Ridley Scott, Body Of Lies is a tense thriller.

CHOKE (18)



From maverick author Chuck Palahniuk (Fight Club) and new writer-director Clark Gregg comes the subversively comedic tale of Victor Mancini, con artist, sex addict, colonial village re-enactor, angst-filled serial, restaurant choker – and unsuspecting romantic anti-hero for our unsettling times.

Angelina's change of heart

■ BY JULIA HUNT
AND KATE WHITING

ANGELINA Jolie is one of the most distinguished actresses of her generation.

She embodies the grace and beauty of the old-style Hollywood belles as well as being an earth mother to her six children and devoted partner of actor Brad Pitt.

The 33-year-old seems to play each role – in life and on the big screen – with deft aplomb, ensuring that what is private remains private, but giving her all to each character she plays.

She becomes so embroiled in each performance, in fact, that when she first read the script for her latest role, as single mother Christine Collins in Changeling, she turned it down.

Upsetting

"When I read the script, I could not put it down and then I said 'No'. Immediately. I did not want to go near this project because it was too upsetting."

"But then I couldn't stop talking about her," Angelina, elegant in grey, explains.

"I found myself sitting with people and wanting them to know about this extraordinary woman that you wouldn't believe what happened to her and what these people did to her."

Changeling, the latest work from legendary actor-turned-director Clint Eastwood, tells the story of Christine, whose son Walter disappears without a trace in 1928 Los Angeles.

Five months later, a child who claims to be her son is returned by police, who are keen to win credit for a job well done.

Dazzled by flashbulbs and overwhelmed by reporters, Christine agrees to take the boy home, even



RETHINK: Angelina Jolie first turned down the role of Christine Collins in Changeling

though she knows it is not her son.

Her campaign to find the real Walter continues, but in Prohibition-era LA, women don't stand up to the system and she is sent to a mental institution.

Christine's long battle against the corrupt system eventually changed the course of the city's history.

"I found it very inspiring in the end," Angelina continues.

"It became a story about democracy in action, a story about justice, about suffering a great loss

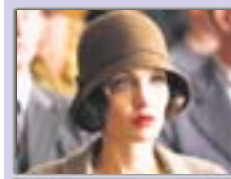
and fighting through it and making a change for the future, for other people and questioning government and the police."

"Christine had to walk a very fine line and then, when she did speak out, they locked her in an institution, so she had this real struggle to try to behave with these corrupt people."

Angelina gave birth to twins in July this year, and they are apparently asleep in her room at London's Claridge's when we

VIEW THIS PREVIEW

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meet. Knox and Vivienne are the latest additions to her and Brad's brood but were still just a glint in their mother's eye while she was filming.

The actress says that her other children – Maddox, seven, Pax, four, Zahara, two – who were all adopted – and two-year-old Shiloh, her first child with Brad, were a comfort to her during the harrowing shoot.

"I had my kids with me as much as possible at lunch and after doing a day at work I would run home," she reveals.

"I just wanted to be silly. It was so emotional that I found myself being really goofy. I was so happy that I knew where my kids were and they were OK."

For an actress at the top of her game, it seems unusual, then, that Angelina plans to bow out of the business. But her family clearly comes first.

"I'm not making some big retirement announcement, but I have a big family and I have a lot of responsibility at home."

"Maybe I'll make a film once a year and then maybe once every two years, and then maybe eventually I'll stop."



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HALFORDS is offering kids bikes and BMXs for half price.

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Vibe Envy girls BMX bikes are £69.99 down from £139.99 and boys X-rated Hustle BMX is £109.99 from £169.99.

For more information or to reserve a bike visit www.halfords.com or visit the store in Batchelor Street, Chatham.

Stun in this startlingly scarlet party outfit

NEW Look is offering girls the perfect outfits to look good this Christmas.

One that will make you turn heads is the red georgette prom dress priced at just £25. Team this with red satin bow stilettos for £15, reduced from £25, a faceted rectangle ring for £4 and a faceted disco bangle for £4.

For more details visit www.newlook.co.uk or your nearest store in Chatham's Pentagon Centre or Gillingham High Street.

Buy two decorations and get the third free

MARKS and Spencer is offering three-for-the-price-of-two on mix-and-match Christmas decorations.

Clear snowflake lights, angel LED lights and hanging diamond lights are all priced at £2.80.

Red and white traditional spruce wreaths are £12, silver sequin garlands are £12, bronze sequin wreaths are £12 and gold pine core wreaths are £7.60.

To see the selection of decorations log on to www.marksandspencer.com or visit the Hempstead Valley, Dockside Outlet or Chatham High Street stores.

Big is beautiful, as the new party range shows

HEAD down to Evans and check out the new party wear selection.

Black sleeveless prom dresses are £60, grey tie-dye print dresses are £55 and black sleeveless maxi dresses are £50.

Shoppers can pick up a brown leopard print boob-tube for £25 and a sequin trim crotch bolero is now £25 down from £35.

To see the selection on offer head to your nearest store in Chatham High Street or at Hempstead Valley, or visit www.evans.co.uk.

Glass of wine to help you mull over your purchase

DISCOVER a world of unusual Christmas gifts and delicious Italian treats at a special shopping event at Carluccio's.

Shoppers who go along to the cafés in Tunbridge Wells and at Bluewater from 6pm tomorrow will receive a ten per cent discount on a selection of products. They will be welcomed with a complimentary warming glass of vino cotto (traditional mulled wine) and piccoli assaggi (festive canapés).

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In search of the real Holland

■ BY SIMON ROBINSON

I'D LIKE to extend my gratitude to the rowdy group of English tourists who accompanied me on my flight to Amsterdam.

Had it not been for their oh-so-stereotypical Brits abroad 'banter' throughout the entire one-hour journey, I may have been tempted to spend another weekend in the Dutch capital rather than continue on to The Hague as planned.

Luckily, the middle-aged mob's mantra – smoking cannabis and making countless sorties into the red-light district – served only to reinforce my desire to search out a deeper, truer side of Holland.

And that's what I found in The Hague.

The country's third-largest city, known by its inhabitants as Den Haag, provided the backdrop for a perfect city break.

The good people at the Dutch and The Hague tourist boards laid on a packed programme of culture, fine eating, contemporary Brazilian dance/puppetry and drunken dancing on a bar (although this last activity was not originally part of the schedule).

Here's how I spent my time:

FRIDAY: Having arrived in Holland shortly after 11am, less than 30 minutes later we pulled into The Hague Central Station and set off on foot for our hotel, which was conveniently placed near a thriving district of high-street shops, intimate boutiques and restaurants.

Having settled in, we made our way via tram to our first tourist destination, the miniature world of Madurodam.

The outdoor visitor attraction plays home to dozens of meticulously accurate replicas of the area's most recognisable landmarks.

Dinner was taken at the oriental-styled Restaurant Puck, which served up an array of modern fish and meat dishes, all of which was



DONE AMSTERDAM? If so, visit The Hague, which offers superb museums, galleries and a lively bar and restaurant scene

cooked up in the busy, open-view kitchen.

SATURDAY: Having taken in a range of modern art at the Gemeentemuseum we were then given the chance to take in some Dutch classics at the Mauritshuis, Holland's Royal Picture Gallery.

The compact museum boasts priceless works from the likes of Rembrandt and Johannes Vermeer, including the latter's most famous piece, *Girl With A Pearl Earring*.

While the modern art at our first stop was 'interesting', it's hard to gaze upon a bundle of screwed-up paper or two thick, parallel lines on a white canvas with the same admiration as a 300-year-old masterpiece.

With lunchtime fast approaching, we made our way to the delightfully regal Hotel Des Indes for high tea.

Next on the agenda was a whistle-stop tour of The Hague, taking in the city's most prominent buildings.

Highlights included Queen Beatrix's Paleis Noordeinde (official work palace) and the beautiful Binnenhof buildings, which house the Dutch parliament.

The tour was wrapped up with a traditional bite to eat – raw herring with onions. Despite being not much of a fish fan, the Dutch delicacy went down well.

We spent our evening at the Candance Festival taking in a Brazilian contemporary dance/puppetry show, which was less pretentious than the description implies.

The plot loosely centred on the Wizard of Oz, complete with ruby-red slippers and a 6ft foam puppet of the Wicked Witch. Don't ask.

Drinks were then taken at a cosmopolitan pub, where end-of-the-night dancing on the bar seemed like a good idea at the time.

SUNDAY: Hangover. Breakfast. Bus ride to the historic city of Delft. With its ancient canals, churches and city walls, it gives visitors a chance to take in Holland of old.

The 13th-century city, the birthplace of painter Johannes Vermeer, boasts the wondrously-named Oude Kerk (old church) and Nieuwe Kerk (new church), open marketplace and miles of peaceful canals.

It proved the ideal place to wind down from a long weekend.

FACT FILE: THE HAGUE



Travel details

From London to Amsterdam, KLM operates up to 16 routes a day between London Heathrow and London City Airport. Fares start at £118 per person return, including taxes.

For more information and to book, log on to www.klm.com, phone 08705 074 074, or visit your local travel agent.

From London Gatwick to Amsterdam, British Airways operates up to five flights per day.

Fares start at £100 per person return. For more information and to book, log on to www.britishairways.com, phone 0844 493 0787, or visit your local travel agent.

From Amsterdam Airport Schiphol you can take the train to The Hague Central Station; direct trains depart every 30 minutes with a journey time of 31 minutes.

Cost of one-way ticket is 7.30 euros.

Netherlands Board of Tourism and Conventions

W: www.holland.com/uk

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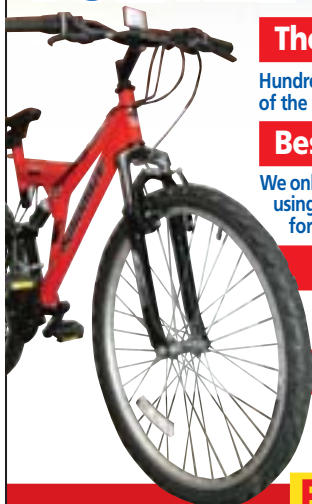
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YOUR TV REVIEW

DAILY SHOW WITH JON STEWART
More 4, 8.30pm, weeknights
HAVE I GOT NEWS FOR YOU
BBC One, 9pm, Friday

■ BY TOM BETTS

AS the presidency of George W Bush enters its final days, I think it's fair to say that there won't be many who mourn the end of his time in office too much.

Some are already calling the Texan 'the worst president ever', but for comedians, satirists and impressionists everywhere, the final decline of Dubya will prove a real loss.

For Jon Stewart, current king of the American TV schedules, it will be a sad day indeed.

The golden boy of liberal America has long since overtaken the likes of Letterman and Leno in his lampooning of the president.

Meanwhile, as the man revered by so many for sticking it to Dubya, he's even scored a role hosting Oscars night, and the keys to a million educated female hearts into the bargain.

The Daily Show has now been on our screens for some considerable time, too, not that you would know it thanks to criminal under-promotion.

More 4 bagged it up and stuck it on for us all to wonder at, but the show faces a big challenge with the impending arrival of Barack Obama in the Oval Office.

It could be seen as party-poopng if the jokes start flying at the expense of the man many regard as the chosen one, especially as, being the first black president, he looks set to enjoy a post-election honeymoon period most politicians would kill for.

In a way, Stewart has much in common with the team of Have I Got



VOTE-WINNER: More 4's The Daily Show with Jon Stewart is one of television's hidden gems

News For You, back on BBC One for series number 36. In these times of British voter apathy and low turnout, the likes of Ian Hislop and Paul Merton perhaps form as effective an opposition as the shadow cabinet, for half an hour a week at least.

But while HIGNFY is still a mainstay of the schedules – and deservedly so – is it not about time they found a regular presenter?

With Boris Johnson now in what passes for serious mode, he won't be back for a guest host slot and for every good host, like Alexander Armstrong, there's an embarrassing turn by Anne Widdecombe or Joan Collins.

Not that any of this has blunted the tongues of Ian Hislop or Paul Merton, who remain as sharp as they have ever been.

Politics – it's the new rock'n'roll. Haven't you heard?

YOUR WEEK'S HOROSCOPE

BY RUSSELL GRANT



AQUARIUS (Jan 21-Feb 19)

A PASSION packed love affair gives you a sexy glow that makes friends, family and fellow workers sit up and take notice. Nothing puts a spring in your step like love. An unexpected expense could force you to cancel arrangements, but you won't let it get you down for long.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Aquarius** 09067-531762



TAURUS (Apr 21-May 21)

A BURNING desire to travel may prompt you to book a trip. If you're single, you're sure to find romance on this journey. You could be drawn to someone who is much older or younger than you. This age difference seems to enhance your relationship, not detract from it.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Taurus** 09067-531753



LEO (Jul 24-Aug 23)

YOUR job puts you in touch with some highly creative people. Being around writers, painters, or actors may inspire you to begin an art project. Your imagination is your most precious treasure. If you stick to this path, you might even be able to sell your work for a handsome profit.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Leo** 09067-531756



SCORPIO (Oct 24-Nov 22)

YOU could get some good news regarding a female friend or relative. A fun night on the town will let you forget all of the frustrations that have been building for the past few weeks. An official from a humanitarian organisation may offer to write you a recommendation.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Scorpio** 09067-531759



PISCES (Feb 20-Mar 20)

AN old friendship could blossom into new romance with very little encouragement. You're not sure why you've developed such a strong desire for the person in question. Perhaps you're getting tired of the people you usually fall for and fancy something a little different.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Pisces** 09067-531763



GEMINI (May 22-Jun 22)

MONEY from an inheritance or legal settlement gives you a chance to make home improvements. If you don't own a home, think about buying one. Although you hate being tied down it's usually a good idea to have a secure base. A close friend or partner could lose their job.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Gemini** 09067-531754



VIRGO (Aug 24-Sep 23)

YOU yearn to go on an overseas journey with your lover, or in search of a lover. Exotic surroundings will fan the flames of your mutual passion. Don't impose your family's values on your beloved. Just because you were raised to think a certain way doesn't mean it's right.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Virgo** 09067-531757



SAGITTARIUS (Nov 23-Dec 21)

NORMALLY you don't care much about your personal presentation or what you wear, but this week you'll want to make a good impression on a potential employer. If you look the part of a professional, you'll be more likely to land a well paid position.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Sagittarius** 09067-531760



ARIES (Mar 21-Apr 20)

CAREER concerns put you in the spotlight, which is exactly where you like to be. Being offered a plum position is proof your boss is impressed with your talent. It may be necessary to train with someone older as a means to learn the business from the ground up.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Aries** 09067-531752



CANCER (Jun 23-Jul 23)

Someone close gives you the drive to go back to school. Learning a foreign language or taking up new technological skills will be stimulating and frustrating. Stick with it, all good things take time and perseverance. A legal decision could come as an utter surprise.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Cancer** 09067-531755



LIBRA (Sep 24-Oct 23)

HOME is where the heart is. Entertaining friends and family brings out the best in you. You're the type of host who is able to let go and have a good time after your guests arrive. That's probably why your parties are so successful. Resist the urge to tell a colleague what you really think.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Libra** 09067-531758



CAPRICORN (Dec 22-Jan 20)

THIS is a great time for learning and studying. If you want to boost your qualification apply for a place on a training course now, while the stars are behind you. Complicated technology has a nasty way of breaking down just when you need it most. Be sure to back up your files.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Capricorn** 09067-531761

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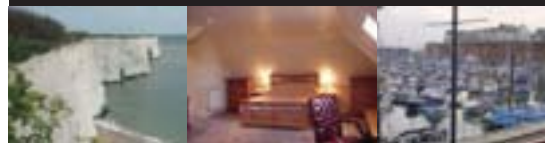
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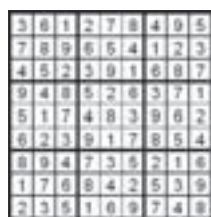


A crossword puzzle grid is shown, featuring 26 numbered squares indicating the starting points for the clues. The grid is a 15x15 square with black squares forming a pattern that defines the white squares for letters. The numbers are placed in the top-left corner of the starting squares for each clue.

- 1: Top row, column 1.
- 2: Top row, column 2.
- 3: Top row, column 4.
- 4: Top row, column 5.
- 5: Top row, column 7.
- 6: Top row, column 8.
- 7: Top row, column 10.
- 8: Top row, column 11.
- 9: Second row, column 1.
- 10: Second row, column 7.
- 11: Third row, column 1.
- 12: Third row, column 2.
- 13: Third row, column 5.
- 14: Third row, column 7.
- 15: Fourth row, column 1.
- 16: Fourth row, column 10.
- 17: Fifth row, column 1.
- 18: Fifth row, column 2.
- 19: Fifth row, column 4.
- 20: Fifth row, column 8.
- 21: Fifth row, column 9.
- 22: Sixth row, column 1.
- 23: Sixth row, column 7.
- 24: Seventh row, column 1.
- 25: Seventh row, column 7.
- 26: Eighth row, column 2.

2 Elusive (7)
3 Brown coal (7)
4 Astern (3)
5 Green pigment of plants (11)
6 Decorated with white fur (7)
7 Confirm the truth (6)
8 With a strong desire to act (5-6)
11 Capable of being overcome (11)
13 Luxuriantly (11)
18 Merrymaking (6)
19 Metrical foot (7)
20 Passenger-carrier (7)
21 Kneecap (7)
25 Vegetable (3)

HARD



ARROSS: 1 Well-matched Caught
 10-Lambert 12 Office 14 Running 15
 Queue-jumped 16 Yes 17 Egg 19 Teeny-bop-
 per 22 Arizona 23 Lunatic 24 Latchet 25
 Pebble 26 New Years Day; **DOWN:** 2
 Evasive 3 Lignite 4 Aft 5 Chlorophyll 6
 Enmired 7 Verity 8 Stage-ship 11
 Conquerable 13 Exuberantly 18 Gaily 19
 Trochee 20 Omnibus 21 Patella 25 Pea



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Single mum, 23, nice and curvy, 5ft6, blonde/blue, likes shopping, cinema, animals, WLTW honest and trustworthy male, 28-38, Box 44699

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Fun-to-be-with, blonde female, 25, 5ft2, loves football, going out and staying in, looking for like-minded man to be my soulmate. Box 44694

MAYBE MORE

Seeking fun, friendship, maybe more. WLTW fun man 25-30, I'm female, 26, brown hair/eyes, average build. Box 44522

SHUGGLE UP

Tall, attractive, good-hearted African female, 28, enjoys films, good food and cuddles, wlm white male for friendship/romance. Box 441654

DON'T LET ME DOWN

Pretty, black female, 38, 5ft4, like football, socialising and cooking, looking for a loving and caring male, 38-42, for a LTR. Box 44664

FROM ME TO YOU

Tall leggy brunette, 38, recently bereaved, enjoys meals out or nights in, dry white wine, a good movie & cuddles, seeking a male for companionship. Box 887404

DON'T PASS ME BY

Cute, single mum of 4, 38yrs old, Kent based, into most things, looking for friendship or possibly romance. Box 879383

YOUNG-AT-HEART

Attractive 38yr old female, dark brown hair, blue eyes, curvy physique, likes days out, music, concerts, cinema, walking, cycling, seeks loving, fun male, for friendship/relationship. Box 901893

BLONDE AMBITION

Bubbly, cuddly, blonde single mum, 38, 5ft6, likes cars, reading, pubs, cosy nights in, having a laugh, looking for that right male for LTR. Box 905614

ENTHUSIASM ENCOURAGED!
Lovely pretty big-busted lady, 35, medium build, 5ft5, lots of energy! likes the gym, reading, new experiences! seeking nice man for potential exciting relationship! Box 446724

ANIMAL LOVER?

Nurse, 37yrs, 2 kids, 5ft8, blonde, blue eyes, likes the gym, cooking, swimming, sails, looking for kind, caring, loyal male Box 431557

FAIRY TALE ENDING

Good-looking slim blonde, 42, tired of kissing frogs, seeking an intelligent, serious professional male to be my prince. Box 446521

WHITE ROSES

Very attractive female, 42, slim, green eyes, high cheek bones, wicked SOH! Loves to make people laugh, seeking intelligent, well-mannered, kind man. Box 446543

BORN TO MAKE YOU HAPPY

Caring lovely lady, 42, genuine, short brown hair, lacks confidence! seeking loyal, genuine person, someone special to put the spark back into my life. Box 885761

YOU NEVER KNOW

Kind, loving, caring mum, 43, 5ft5, round but cuddly! Just looking for someone to share my life with...how about you? Box 446457

EVERLASTING LOVE

Beautiful black female, 46, WLTW a caring, gentle and loving gentleman, 45-60, 5ft10+, pref a bit sporty, for a everlasting relationship. Tunbridge Wells. Box 445407

ETERNALLY YOURS

Easygoing female, likes most things in life, country walks, films, cinema, cooking, I'm 46, 5ft2, medium build. WLTW genuine, happy guy, easygoing and fun. Box 445635

WELL SEE

Blonde hair/blue eyes, 5ft5, slim build, looking for friendship, maybe more. I'm a nice woman, 47, seeking good male, for friendship, possibly more. Box 445332

SANDY SEES DANNY

Slm, petite Sandy, 46, brown hair, green eyes, no ties, loves socialising, eating out etc, GSOH, seeking trust-worthy, honest man for partnership and mutual affection. Box 440100

ARE YOU THE ONE FOR ME?

Caring, cute female, 46, petite, likes socialising, dancing, travelling, good food, seeking intelligent, loyal man 42-52 for love and TLC. Seaford. Box 444366

MAKE ME LAUGH, MAKE ME YOURS

Single 47yr old lovely female, 5ft5, slim build, blonde hair, blue-green eyes, seeking male for potential LTR, must have GSOH! Box 885288

ALL THAT I NEED

Young-looking, slim, attractive female, 48, fun-loving, outgoing, N/S, GSOH, love music, holidays, going out, staying in, seeks similar man, 42-50. Aylesford. Box 428833

JUST IMAGINE

Petite, brunette, bubbly, friendly, easygoing single mum, 49, enjoys cinema, eating out, socialising, most things, WLTW genuine male, to see where life takes us! Box 893662

WHERE R U AT

Cheerful, honest, popular blonde 50yrs old, 5ft2, slim build, looking to find an honest, loyal man that can make me happy again. Box 887347

DIG DEEPER

Genuine, friendly female, 49, likes walks, gardening, nights in/out, seeking genuine, friendly male, 45-55, Dover Box 435441

ARE YOU MY MR RIGHT?

Independent, honest, caring and genuine smoker, 53, medium build, GSOH, likes socialising, travelling, WLTW a genuine and honest male for friendship, companionship, maybe a LTR. Box 887442

MISS JULIE

Bubbly blonde, 44, stupid and like having a laugh, good company, friendship, would love to meet new friends for hopeful love... Box 886162

NICE TO MEET YOU

I'm Nina, 40, single mum, looking to meet a single dad, single dad welcome, for friendship and more. I like motorbikes, wildlife and the beach. Box 446679

COME ON OVER

Divorced female, 40, likes fishing, swimming, walking and eating out, WLTW young man, for friendship and more. Box 446097

TOO MUCH TO ASK?

Genuine female, 41, 5'3", brunette, brown eyes, medium build, enjoys meals out, music etc, seeks male, 38-42, for romance. Box 155275

THE HOME LIFE

Happy, caring female, homely, tactile and honest. I'm black African, 41, 5ft2, medium build, and would like LTR with the right person. Box 446824

YOU'LL SMILE IF YOU DIAL

Bubbly 40yr old female, enjoys beaches, pubs, clubs, wlm a like-minded, caring male to share fun times with. Box 435102

DEAL OR NO DEAL? (IN DEAL)

Deal-based lady, 43, divorced, brunette, green eyes, 5ft10, likes going out, pubs, clubs, cinema, shopping, walks, loves films and all sports except cricket. Box 430384

COULD IT BE YOU?

Hi I'm 44, slim, 5ft8, a redhead, love nights out, socialising, looking for friendship initially and hopefully more later on. Box 889800

HERE WE ARE

Easygoing female, 45, self-employed hairdresser, likes theatre, restaurants, socialising, sofa cuddles, seeking loyal, loving, caring male for good times and more. Box 446472

MAKE ME LAUGH!

Fun extrovert person, 45, likes cinema, 5ft7, dark brown hair/eyes, curvy, seeking nice guy to start off as friends. Box 429205

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LOVING & HAPPY-GO-LUCKY

Jovial, caring female, 51, 5'3", brown hair, hazel eyes, own business, wlm nice, tall, good looking gent for laughter, life and love. Box 926614

NOTHING VENTURED...

New to this, I'm a 53yr old woman, seeking loving, tactile man. I enjoy walks, countryside, having fun, nights in and out. Box 446282

SEEING THROUGH THE SHYNESS

Attractive female, 53, intelligent, kind, funny, non-smoking, WLTW nice, kind, normal male, 50-60, for theatre, laughs and more. Box 446383

ARE YOU MY BOND...

Kind, caring, attractive lady, young 53, 5'7", slim, brown hair/eyes, N/S, GSOH, enjoys walking, reading, travel, socialising; seeking tall, considerate, honest gent for hopeful LTR. Box 446079

SEEKING SOULMATE

Gorgeous slim attractive young-looking female, 54, active, wicked SOH, 5ft5, blue eyes, sociable, loves music, dancing, travelling; seeking warm, sincere man for genuine companionship. Box 446634

EXTRA! EXTRA! READ ALL ABOUT IT!

African lady, 58, seeking caring, current affairs and travelling, WLTW an outgoing, fun-loving and honest male to share the rest of my life with. Box 445122

FOR LOVE

Hard-working male, 29, 5ft10, dark hair, brown eyes, medium build, plays harder! likes going/leaving out, walks, pubs, loves life, seeking similar happy, trustworthy lady. Box 442752

LIFE IN THE FAST LANE

Normal down-to-earth guy 5ft9, short hair, brown eyes, medium build, 34, love to meet female any age for outgoing, fun, friendly times and maybe more. Box 446154

LOOKING FOR YOU

Normal down-to-earth guy 5ft9, short hair, brown eyes, medium build, 34, love to meet female any age for outgoing, fun, friendly times and maybe more. Box 446154

LOVE

Outgoing male, 34, loves bowling and cosy nights in, WLTW an outgoing, bubbly and kind-hearted female to spend the rest of my life with. Box 445567

HERE WE ARE

Loving, caring male, 36, likes restaurants, drinks, works hard, non smoker, WLTW young lady 25-36, no ties, lasting relationship. Box 446582

TIME TO TIME

Italian origin male, 36, tall, dark hair and eyes, loves good fun, very handsome, seeks bubbly, outgoing lady to take out and spoil. Box 446589

NON-SMOKING

Separated male, 36, 6ft, good looks and SOH, kind, caring and sensual, into films and life seeking. Caring a cult to share life and love with. Box 445723

EVERYTHING I DO

Lee, driver, 36yr old, 6ft3, dark hair, like pubs, clubs, wine bars, places of interest, sports and reading, with a woman for friendship and romance. Box 889720

YOUR TIME IS COMING

Maidstone male, 35, dark blond hair, dark eyes, nice looking, have 1 little girl, own business, varied interests, looking for a fun lady under 40 Box 429375

R U A ME?

Down-to-earth, loyal guy, 36, looking for companionship, leading to a long-term relationship. Enjoys meals out, good company, conversation, cosy evenings in. Box 914917

POP ON!

Hi, I'm Mark, 6ft, slim/medium build, lots of interests including motorbikes, WLTW a kind and honest female to share fun times and laughter with. Box 445124

YOUR KNIGHT IN SHINING ARMOUR

Decent genuine guy, 39, 5ft8, brown hair and eyes, good looking, seeking someone genuine, fun, and good company to be with forever. Box 446693

TRUE HONESTY, TRUE LOVE

Decent genuine guy, 39, 5ft8, brown hair and eyes, good looking, seeking someone genuine, fun, and good company to be with forever. Box 446693

WOMEN seeking women

Curvy bi female, 32, seeks like-minded woman, for friendship, hopefully more. Single mum, work part time. Box 886142

LOVELY JO

Young-looking attractive female, 54, n/s, friendly and sociable, love music, dance and history, warm and sparkly, WLTW a genuine female for a close female friendship. Box 445146

MEN seeking women

SECRET SMILE

Young guy, 19, dark complexion, enjoys socialising, cinema, pubs and clubs. Looking for a fun to go out and enjoy life. Box 445706

AIMING TO PLEASE!

Down to earth guy, 19, slim build, fit, green eyes, romantic, likes to socialise and hoping to meet new people, especially the one! Box 446740

ALL THE GOOD THINGS

Hi I'm Rob, 22, 6ft3, short dark hair, hazel eyes, enjoys cinema, cosy nights in, cinema, sports; seeking female 20-28 with GSOH for LTR. Box 446466

BLUE-EYED BOY

5ft8, blond-haired, blue-eyed, average-build guy, 23, likes hanging out with friends, trying new things, meeting new people, seeking similar girl for mutual love. Box 888422

A NICE GUY

Hi, I'm Jim, 6ft, 44, interests include: eating out, cinema and swimming, WLTW a lady with similar interests and gosh. Box 446560

I'LL MAKE YOU LAUGH

Very romantic, caring and loyal male, 44, slim, blue eyes, fair hair, great sense of humour, seeking a lady who is seeking for hopeful LTR. Box 446120

DAD'S THE WORD

Lonely single male, 44, 6ft2, fair hair, great SOH, quite happy but looking for a lady 30-40 to have fun with and hopefully something else. Box 446452

HAPPY TOGETHER

White male, 46, 5ft7, easygoing, n/s, loves a laugh, enjoys theme parks, concerts, romantic walks, wlm a female to be happy with. Kids no problem. Box 444339

TLO NEEDED ASAP

Lonely hard-working male, 47, slim, good looking, 5ft8, into most things...sports, pubs, meals, socialising, walks, travel...WLTW honest, loyal female for TLC. Eastbourne. Box 444244

GIVE IT A SHOT

Slim/medium build guy, 48, own home, looking for a girl to settle down with, likes going out and cosy nights on the sofa. Box 446489

ALL THE FUN OF THE FAIR!

Youthful dad, 45, 5'10", brown hair, build, divorced, likes pubs, cinema, restaurants, theme parks, wlm female, 38-45, slim, for possible LTR. Cranbrook Box 737529

PUPPY LOVE

Dog-loving guy, I'm 47, 5ft8, with short hair/green eyes, slim build, I love gardening, country walks, sports - football/bikes, DIY, animals. Box 428800

ALL TYPES WELCOME

Fit male, 49, 5ft7, brown eyes, short hair, likes football, sport, walking! I'm outgoing, seeking a similar woman for good times. Box 446719

LOVE ON THE DANCEFLOOR

Outgoing young-minded male, 47, a smoker, likes video games, books, cinema, castles, POL, seeking similar woman to boogie on the dancefloor with. Box 443750

PROPERTY NEWS

Better news for the first-timers

THE head of a firm specialising in working with first-time buyers says the prospect for the market is improving.

Paul Holmes, chief executive of First-rung, claimed the falling prices of homes meant that more and more properties were coming within the reach of buyers.

However, he added that those who are looking to get on the housing ladder need to ensure their jobs are safe – and will need a larger deposit than previously of about 15 to 20 per cent.

“The good news is that while they [first-time buyers] are saving up for the deposit, house prices will continue to fall and come more in line with affordability and their expectations,” said Mr Holmes.

But he added the first stage for newcomers to the market would be them having to save “furiously” for the deposit because of its increase since the credit crunch took hold.



Agents demand action from top

ESTATE agents are calling on the Government to inject some life into the housing market by taking action to help the beleaguered business.

A poll by the National Association of Estate Agents showed 54 per cent had no confidence in the Government, and the body is calling for more interest rate cuts and a suspension of stamp duty.

The most recent findings when it comes to property analysis have prompted the call.

The number of sales per agent was up from six to seven – still historically low – and the number of first-time buyers taking a part in the market increased.

However, there was a seven per cent fall in the number of house-hunters on estate agents' books to 196.

Prices dive slowing

THE rate at which house prices are falling eased in November, according to analysts.

The average cost of a home dropped by just 0.4 per cent during the month, compared with a slide of 1.3 per cent during October, according to the Nationwide Building Society.



HOPEFUL: As sellers are becoming more realistic about the new value of their homes, vendors and surveyors are anticipating a genuine improvement in market conditions

Reality check brings optimism to market

■ BY NICK AMES

LEVELS of home-buying are still falling, but estate agents claim that they are seeing some early positive signs of recovery in the property market.

The Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors' (RICS) market survey for October points to a slight upturn in prices – although that is from what was an extreme low.

The main factor found to be depressing prices was the large stock of unsold properties and limited numbers of buyers – but not a surge in forced selling, as a high number of recession-fuelled repossessions has yet to feed into the market.

The number of completed sales per surveyor was also down.

But the feeling of hope across the market is

improving, with more analysts expecting an upturn than had a positive outlook at the start of the autumn.

On average the number of sales per surveyor fell from 11.5 to 10.9 – the lowest on record since 1978 and a fall of 53.6 per cent on a year ago.

Surveyors had on average 80.7 properties on their books.

RICS spokesman Ian Perry said: “The interest rate cut should certainly help support the market now lenders have agreed to pass on the reduction to borrowers.

“Even so, the general lack of mortgage finance remains a major blockage in the housing market for a large majority of would-be buyers.”

Along with the two per cent drop in interest rates in two months, surveyors did see some glimmer of hope.

Twenty per cent more chartered surveyors expect an upturn in sales over the next three months, a rise from just four per cent in September.

The increase in optimism is reflected in part by an increasing trend of vendors dropping asking prices, but it may also be a sign there are expectations of a jump in the number of repossessions.

“Many vendors have finally started to accept current market conditions and are dropping their asking prices to achieve a sale,” Mr Perry said.

“Sales should increase in the coming months as more and more sellers understand greater realism is the only way to make that long-desired move.”

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Source:
• Customer satisfaction survey, Dec 2007
• Property portal visitor stats Jan 2008
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<p>STROOD £122,500</p> <p>strood@your-move.co.uk 0845 370 9737</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ideal First Time Purchase • No Onward Chain • Two Bedrooms • Mid Terrace Home 	<p>STROOD £135,000</p> <p>REDUCED</p> <p>strood@your-move.co.uk 0845 370 9737</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Semi Detached Family Home • 3 Bedrooms • Conservatory • No Chain 	<p>STROOD £142,995</p> <p>REDUCED</p> <p>strood@your-move.co.uk 0845 370 9737</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Well Presented (In Our Opinion) • Ideal 1st Time Purchase • ORP • Central Location 	<p>STROOD £159,995</p> <p>strood@your-move.co.uk 0845 370 9737</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> End Terrace Family Home • 4 Bedrooms • ORP • 2 Reception Rooms • GCH • DG As Stated 	<p>CHATHAM £139,995</p> <p>walderslade@your-move.co.uk 0845 370 9738</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Three Bedroom End Of Terraced Home • No Chain! • Located On A Walk Way 	<p>LORDSWOOD £114,995</p> <p>alderslade@your-move.co.uk 0845 370 9738</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3 Bedroomed EOT Home • Re-furbished Property • Set On A Corner Plot • GCH System
<p>WALDESLADE £99,995</p> <p>walderslade@your-move.co.uk 0845 370 9738</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Two Bedroom House • No Upper Chain! • Garage • Kitchen / Diner 	<p>CHATHAM £94,995</p> <p>walderslade@your-move.co.uk 0845 370 9738</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Two Bedroom Top Floor Maisonette • No Onward Chain! • Gas Central Heating System 	<p>CHATHAM £130,000</p> <p>walderslade@your-move.co.uk 0845 370 9738</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> EOT House • Kitchen/ Dining Room • Gas Central Heating System • No Chain 	<p>CHATHAM £184,995</p> <p>walderslade@your-move.co.uk 0845 370 9738</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No Chain! • GCH System • Landscaped Rear Garden • Garage And Parking For 5 Cars 	<p>CHATHAM £124,950</p> <p>walderslade@your-move.co.uk 0845 370 9738</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Located In A Cul-de-sac Position • No Chain! • Modern Fitted Kitchen • GCH System 	<p>CHATHAM £164,995</p> <p>walderslade@your-move.co.uk 0845 370 9738</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3 Bedroomed EOT Home • Re-furbished Property • Set On A Corner Plot • GCH System

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MOTORS NEWS



Octavia's given facelift to make it even better

SKODA is launching a revised Octavia in January 2009, with an extensive facelift, bringing the Czech marque's best-seller into line with the rest of the current range.

Prices of the new Octavia represent an average increase of £473 for the Octavia Hatch and £478 for the Octavia Estate.

Changes include dynamic, sweeping headlights and complimentary front fog lights, new foldable door mirrors and body coloured bumpers and side mouldings, plus a new look interior with better steering wheels, sound systems and upholstery.

A new 1.4 TSI 122bhp engine replaces the current 1.6 FSI 115bhp and a 2.0 FSI 200bhp engine with DSG transmission will be introduced on the Octavia vRS.



Megane awarded Euro NCAP safety award

RENAULT'S latest Megane is its 11th model to earn the Euro NCAP five-star crash test rating.

Safety kit includes: twin side-impact sensors, an innovation that debuted with Laguna III; six airbags, including two twin-chamber thorax/groin airbags; the Renault System for Restraint and Protection, which combines pretensioners and load limiters with twin-stage dual-chamber adaptive front airbags; new-generation headrests; and ABS and Emergency Brake Distribution come as standard.

Car chief makes a call for Government lifeline

CARMAKERS need Government help to mitigate the impact of a downturn that "looks certain to get worse before it gets better", says a car chief.

It was "appropriate and necessary" for the Government to support the industry, added Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders president Graham Smith.

UK support was needed over and above the proposed 40 billion euro loan package which may soon be agreed by European finance ministers.

"We must collaborate nationally to compete internationally," said Mr Smith.

"We have asked for the finance divisions of vehicle manufacturers to get access to the same special liquidity arrangements as are now available to the banks. This access to finance and credit will help to boost demand and support our retail and distribution operations."



NO LAUGHING MATTER: Despite its silly name Kia's Ceed is a serious threat to Ford, Vauxhall and Peugeot, particularly with the offer of a 100,000-mile/seven-year warranty

Sowing a Ceed of doubt in the minds of Ford & Co

KIA'S Ceed hints at why Ford, the original blue-collar brand, is trying to don a white collar.

Okay, Ceed is one of the sillier model names on the market, but nobody is laughing at the headquarters of traditional mainstream car-makers like Ford, Vauxhall or Peugeot.

This five-door Ford Focus rival looks good, feels European, is priced keenly and comes with a seven-year/100,000-mile warranty – unprecedented and still unchallenged on the UK market.

It still cannot quite match the Ford dynamically, but the gap is not so great; the interior of the Kia concedes little, while some drivers might prefer its more pliant ride.

The big question for would-be owners though is: which engine? Ceed prices start at £11,270 in supermini territory rather than Focus class, but that buys the 1.4-litre petrol 'cooking' version.

Most buyers will opt instead for a 1.6 petrol (from £11,820) or 1.6 diesel (from £12,570), but it is still a tough call because the old argument that the petrol will be more refined is undermined by the fact that Kia's 1.6 unit is only

ROAD TEST KIA CEED

BY STEVE LOADER

STAR QUALITY

Driving appeal	★★★★★
Image	★★★★★
Space	★★★★★
Value	★★★★★
Running costs	★★★★★
Reliability	★★★★★
Green rating	★★★★★

average on that front, while its two diesel sisters are silky for this class.

You pay more upfront for the diesels though and need to be confident of covering enough miles to enable the greater economy to recoup that extra cash.

There is less to ponder about the interior; after a previous generation Kia Rio – the car it replaced effectively, since the current Rio is closer to supermini class – this is a quantum leap in quality and comfort, with a decent built-in CD/audio system and steering wheel controls now arranged in the normal indicators-to-the-left 'European' way.

Try to press on with the Ceed and the forgiving suspension allows it to pitch more than a Focus or Vauxhall Astra, though it is never lacks grip or tests confidence.

If this sounds like a deal-breaker though, try the more tautly arranged three-door Procede version.

There is also a third family member worth considering – the capacious and practical Ceed SW estate.

No wonder Ford & Co are worried.

• Email steve.loader@kosmedia.co.uk



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05 to 57 Reg	Mazda3 - Choice of 20	£7,799
06 to 08 Reg	Peugeot 207 - Choice of 25	£6,799
02 to 57 Reg	Peugeot 307 - Choice of 90	£5,299
03 to 57 Reg	Renault Megane - Choice of 25	£4,999
52 to 07 Reg	Ford Focus - Choice of 40	£3,799
02 to 57 Reg	Vauxhall Astra - Choice of 45	£5,499

Prestige Cars



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06 to 56 Reg	BMW 1 Series - Choice of 5	£12,999
52 to 07 Reg	BMW 3 Series - Choice of 10	£6,299
53 to 06 Reg	Jaguar X-Type - Choice of 20	£8,299
W to 04 Reg	Lexus IS200 - Choice of 5	£6,499
Mercedes A-Class	- Choice of 10	£3,799
03 to 55 Reg	Mercedes C-Class - Choice of 15	£9,499

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215

54 to 08 Reg	Peugeot 407 - Choice of 50	£5,999
02 to 57 Reg	Renault Laguna - Choice of 10	£3,499
X to 57 Reg	Ford Mondeo - Choice of 70	£3,999
02 to 55 Reg	Toyota Avensis - Choice of 10	£2,199
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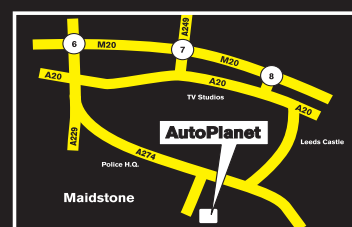
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USED CAR ROUND-UP: OUR PICK FROM A KEY SECTOR

DISTINCTIVE MIDI-MPVs

IN 1997, Renault tried a bit of lateral thinking with the 'people carrier' concept it pioneered with the Espacé and came up with the 'midi' or 'compact' MPV (multi-purpose vehicle). The result was the original five-seat Scenic, the blueprint for even more vehicles than the original Espacé inspired, and the impetus for waves of tall, space efficient 'MPV styling' across the whole car market. As one of the new car market's boom sectors over the past few years, it means there is also plenty of choice for user car buyers.

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FIAT MULTIPLA



EARNING top marks with the motoring press for originality when it arrived in 2000, the original Multipla proved simply too wacky looking to generate the sales it deserved. A facelift made it more visually acceptable and its practical qualities began to shine. Relatively compact, it allows six to be seated comfortably and there is plenty of stowage space.

STAR QUALITY

Driving appeal	★★★★★
Looks and image	★★★★★
Space	★★★★★
Value	★★★★★
Running costs	★★★★★
Reliability	★★★★★
Quality	★★★★★

CITROEN XSARA PICASSO



NO apologies for including the Picasso – it quickly trumped Renault's pioneering Scenic to become the best-seller in the new sector. It's only a five-seater, but the 'jelly mould design' smooths the edges of a commodious and flexibly equipped box. The range features excellent turbodiesels and has a good reliability record. Plenty of choice on the used market too.

STAR QUALITY

Driving appeal	★★★★★
Looks and image	★★★★★
Space	★★★★★
Value	★★★★★
Running costs	★★★★★
Reliability	★★★★★
Quality	★★★★★

HONDA FR-V



THOUGH late into this sector, Honda had time to review the market and decided that Fiat got it right with the Multipla. So the FR-V is another short, wide six-seater with two rows of seats, but not as roomy as the Fiat. Buyers like the peace of mind Honda's engineering gives and how the dash-mounted gearshift creates room in front.

STAR QUALITY

Driving appeal	★★★★★
Looks and image	★★★★★
Space	★★★★★
Value	★★★★★
Running costs	★★★★★
Reliability	★★★★★
Quality	★★★★★

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GK03LVL	FABIA COMFORT 5DR HATCH	1.4 16V AUTO (PETROL)	14710	ADMIRAL BLUE
GL54HYC	FABIA ELEGANCE 5DR HATCH	1.4 16V 100BHP (PETROL)	14290	SATIN GREY
GX02VOY	FABIA ELEGANCE 5DR HATCH	2.0 MPI (PETROL)	70334	STONE GREY
GN03XJD	FABIA ELEGANCE 5DR HATCH	2.0 MPI (PETROL)	14864	DIAMOND SILVER
CV06AFU	FABIA VRS 5DR HATCH	1.9 TDI 130BHP (DIESEL)	40318	BLACK MAGIC
GJ57WCE	FABIA 1 5DR HATCH	1.2 12V 70BHP (PETROL)	6581	TANGERINE ORANGE
GJ08YLU	FABIA 2 5DR HATCH	1.2 12V 70BHP (PETROL)	6242	STORM BLUE
K557EHD	FABIA 2 5DR HATCH	1.4 TDI 80BHP (DIESEL)	5874	SATIN GREY
GJ08VBE	FABIA 3 5DR HATCH	1.4 TDI 80BHP (DIESEL)	7687	FLAMENCO RED
WP05KTX	FABIA CLASSIC 5DR ESTATE	1.2 12V 64BHP (PETROL)	14706	DIAMOND SILVER
GJ55OVP	FABIA AMBIENTE 5DR ESTATE	1.2 12V 64BHP (PETROL)	19902	DIAMOND SILVER
GF55UKC	FABIA AMBIENTE 5DR ESTATE	1.2 12V 64BHP (PETROL)	23600	GRAPHITE GREY
GJ05WVV	FABIA AMBIENTE 5DR ESTATE	1.9 TDI 100BHP (DIESEL)	36801	GRAPHITE GREY
Y506TKM	FABIA ELEGANCE 5DR ESTATE	1.4 16V 100BHP (PETROL)	65220	DIAMOND SILVER
GL08DDY	FABIA 1 5DR ESTATE	1.2 12V 70BHP (PETROL)	3845	STORM BLUE
GJ08VBF	FABIA 2 5DR ESTATE	1.4 16V 85BHP (PETROL)	TBA	STORM BLUE

ROOMSTER

GJ08VBK	ROOMSTER 2 5DR MPV	1.6 16V 105BHP (PETROL)	7032	OLIVE GREEN
GJ08YLR	ROOMSTER SCOUT 5DR HATCH	1.9 TDI 105BHP (DIESEL)	2386	POLAR BLUE

OCTAVIA

GF56DXZ	OCTAVIA CLASSIC 5DR HATCH	1.6 16V 115BHP (PETROL)	27221	CORRIDA RED
GL07TTY	OCTAVIA AMBIENTE 5DR HATCH	1.9 TDI 105BHP (DIESEL)	12828	CORRIDA RED
GL07CFV	OCTAVIA AMBIENTE 5DR HATCH	1.9 TDI 105BHP (DIESEL)	14006	BLACK MAGIC
GL07CFJ	OCTAVIA AMBIENTE 5DR HATCH	1.9 TDI 105BHP (DIESEL)	13396	CAPPUCCINO BEIGE
K557EEA	OCTAVIA AMBIENTE 5DR HATCH	1.9 TDI 105BHP (DIESEL)	10585	BRILLIANT SILVER
GJ08VAU	OCTAVIA AMBIENTE 5DR HATCH	1.9 TDI 105BHP (DIESEL)	5505	SATIN GREY
K554HHX	OCTAVIA ELEGANCE 5DR HATCH	1.9 TDI 105BHP (DIESEL)	35951	GRAPHITE GREY
GL57YKV	OCTAVIA ELEGANCE 5DR HATCH	1.9 TDI 105BHP (DIESEL)	3501	SATIN GREY
HT54LSV	OCTAVIA ELEGANCE 5DR HATCH	2.0 TDI 140BHP (DIESEL)	92398	STORM BLUE
GK08ZNX	OCTAVIA L&K 5DR HATCH	2.0 TDI 140BHP (DIESEL)	4807	BLACK MAGIC
GK05OJY	OCTAVIA VRS 5DR HATCH	1.8 20V TURBO 180BHP (PETROL)	32082	DIAMOND SILVER
GF57HKO	OCTAVIA VRS 5DR HATCH	2.0 TDI 170BHP (DIESEL)	3751	CORRIDA RED
LT525NN	OCTAVIA AMBIENTE 5DR ESTATE	1.6 MPI (PETROL)	39486	DIAMOND SILVER
GJ08VAV	OCTAVIA AMBIENTE 5DR ESTATE	2.0 TDI 140BHP (DIESEL)	6046	STORM BLUE
GL08XRC	OCTAVIA L&K 5DR ESTATE	2.0 FSI AUTO 150BHP (PETROL)	TBA	ISLAND GREEN
GJ08YLX	OCTAVIA L&K 5DR ESTATE	2.0 TDI 140BHP (DIESEL)	TBA	BRILLIANT SILVER

SUPERB

OU03OPF	SUPERB ELEGANCE 4DR SALOON	2.8 V6 (PETROL)	54292	SAHARA BEIGE
GJ55OUX	SUPERB ELEGANCE 4DR SALOON	1.9 TDI 130BHP	21822	SAHARA BEIGE
KV57BVX	SUPERB ELEGANCE 4DR SALOON	2.0 TDI 140BHP (DIESEL)	11277	BLACK MAGIC

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Fuji Seal Europe Ltd.

The Fuji Seal Group is the only shrink sleeve manufacturer offering a complete single source solution utilising its network of manufacturing operations in the UK, Netherlands, France, Poland, USA, Asia and Japan. We are currently recruiting the following position:

COSTING ASSISTANT

We are seeking a methodical, extremely accurate and detail orientated person to join our costing team.

Computer literate, with an enthusiasm and flair for data analysis, the jobholder will be responsible for preparing prices following requests from the sales department. You will also be responsible for checking quotations and invoices. The job holder will need to be flexible and able to adapt, urgently at short notice, whilst maintaining the discipline necessary to keep on track with all the other requirements of the job.

The jobholder must have excellent verbal and numerical skills and be able to work with tight deadlines. Teamwork is essential and the ability to develop good working relationships both within the company and with external contacts is a must. Manufacturing background an advantage however training will be given.

You'll enjoy a full range of employee benefits. To apply please send your CV to HR Department, Fuji Seal Europe Ltd, Scimitar Close, Gillingham Business Park, Gillingham, Kent ME8 0RJ or alternatively you can email to jobs@fuji-seal.com.

Closing date: 7 December 2008

Strictly no agencies.

Fuji Seal Europe are an equal opportunities employer.

Recruitment Telesales Executive
Based at our offices near Ashford

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enthusiastic
a team player
confident
self motivated
driven
willing to succeed
tenacious

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www.kentnews.co.uk
www.jobsforkent.co.uk
www.yourkenttv.co.uk

To advertise in this section **01303 817040**

Ashbridge Domestic Appliances

We require a qualified Domestic Appliance Engineer.

Good rates of pay and benefits including vehicle, healthcare, training & uniform.

C.V's to: Mr Pluckrose, Ashbridge Domestic Appliances, Unit 2, Bridge Rd, Ashford, Kent, TN23 1BB

To advertise in this section

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TAXI DRIVER'S
Required

Please contact
Elaine
01795 431500

Market Research Interviewers

If you enjoy working on your own, can work after 12.30pm or at weekends have your own transport and land phone line, and want to find out more, phone us now for an information pack quoting your postcode and code no: **6539SC**

- Earn £60.65-£66.72 for a 6 hour working day.
- Other benefits: travel allowance and holiday pay.
- Flexible work: min 2 and up to 5 days per week.
- No previous experience, full assessment/training given.
- No selling: asking people's opinions in their homes.
- Good level of spoken and written English required.

Kantar Operations
020 8433 4491
www.kantaroperations.com
We are an equal opportunity employer

The National Autistic Society is the UK's leading charity for people affected by autism. We provide a wide range of advice, information, support and specialist services to 100,000 people each year, and campaign and lobby positive change for the half a million people in the UK with autism.

Lead Teacher and Head of Further Education Department

Helen Allison School
Longfield Road, Meopham, Kent DA13 0EW
LS3 - 11
Required January 09 or asap

Helen Allison School is an independent school that provides specialist education and care for 70 children and young people with an autistic spectrum disorder aged 5-19 years. We have a residential provision that caters for 29 students on a 38 week basis.

We are looking for a qualified teacher with experience of teaching children with autism and Asperger syndrome. You will have responsibility for the management and curriculum of our current off-site Further Education Department. A new Further Education premises is in the process of being planned and you will be involved with this exciting development. In addition you will promote best practice through monitoring the teaching, learning and assessment throughout the school.

This is an excellent opportunity if you are keen to meet new challenges as part of our senior leadership team. In return for your commitment, we will give you all the support and encouragement you need to develop. You will also benefit from a significant training and resource budget.

For further information, visits or an informal discussion please contact Rosie Williams, Deputy Principal Education on 01474 814878 or email helenallison@nas.org.uk

Closing date: 12.00 Midday Monday 15 December 2008

Applications are sought from all suitably qualified sections of the community but particularly welcome from those with a diagnosis of autism or Asperger syndrome.

Please note: this post requires us to ask about the successful applicant's criminal record/s and proceed with an Enhanced Disclosure application. You will also be required to complete a Health Management Pre-Employment Health Questionnaire.

Committed to Equal Opportunities & Investors in People
Registered Charity No 269425
www.autism.org.uk/jobs

Committed to Equal Opportunities & Investors in People.
Registered Charity No. 269425

Sir Joseph Williamson's Mathematical School
Maidstone Road Rochester Kent ME1 3EL
Tel: 01634 844008
Email: office@sirjosephwilliamson.medway.sch.uk
Website: www.sirjosephwilliamson.medway.sch.uk

A Specialist Voluntary Controlled School in Mathematics, Computing and Humanities. An 11-18 Boys' Grammar School of 1180 students including 300 in the co-educational Sixth Form.

PASTORAL SUPPORT ASSISTANT

We require a full time Pastoral Support Assistant who would be prepared to act as a Cover Supervisor for 37 hours per week, term time only to start in January 2009. Salary will be according to age and experience and will be paid at Medway Grade D2 - Salary range £14,782 - £18,799 pro rata.

The school is expanding its team of support staff in order to enhance our pastoral structure and allow teachers to be at the forefront of learning. Do you relate well to young people? Could you support students at times when they meet barriers to their learning? Would you be able to liaise with parents, teachers and other professionals in support of individuals? Would you be interested in developing your skills with classes of young people?

If so, please contact Mrs J Harrison for an application form and job specification on 01634 844008.

Any offer of employment will be subject to a satisfactory Enhanced Criminal Records Bureau check.

Closing date for applications
- Friday, 12th December 2008

Kent County Council

Development Officer

Starting salary £26,159, with progression through contribution related pay to £29,920 per annum

37 hours per week

Shepway Centre, Maidstone

We are an arm's length service providing an impartial advice and support service to parents and carers of disabled children and children with additional needs. We also work closely with schools, services and agencies to promote parental participation.

We believe that good communication between all those involved in a child's education is key to good relationships which will help children achieve.

Joining our team at a time of significant development, you will have exceptional communication skills and be committed to promoting good communication between parents, schools and agencies and increasing parental participation.

This post is subject to an Enhanced Disclosure Application to the Criminal Records Bureau.

To apply, visit www.kent.gov.uk/jobs Alternatively, please email recruitment.line@kent.gov.uk or call 0845 8247 904. Please quote reference number CFE/o8/o619.

Closing date: Midday, 16th December 2008.

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Managing Director's Personal Assistant Ashford's Future. Salary £29,000 p.a.

Ashford is one of the Government's major growth areas in the south-east and is set to double in size by 2031 with around 31,000 new homes. Ashford's Future is a new company set up to support that agenda, helping to deliver key projects and high quality developments where the community will have access to a wide range of community facilities and good transport links.

Our Managing Director is looking for an experienced Personal Assistant with a meticulous approach who is used to exercising confidentiality and diplomacy.

You will be a good communicator, capable of working on your own initiative. You should have experience of managing diaries, maintaining records as well as arranging and assisting at meetings, responding to correspondence, dealing with telephone calls and enquiries, as well as experience of preparing agendas for meetings. You will also be responsible for receiving visitors and dealing with all enquiries about Ashford's Future at first point of contact.

For an informal discussion please contact Judith Armit on 01233 330811.

Alternatively for an application form and further details, please send an A4 stamped addressed envelope to:

Personnel and Development, Civic Centre, Tannery Lane, Ashford, Kent, TN23 1PL

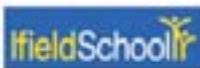
or e-mail recruitment@ashford.gov.uk

Closing date: 5 December 2008.

www.ashfordbestplaced.co.uk/jobs



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Ifield Special School, Cedar Avenue,
Gravesend, Kent DA12 5JT
Telephone: 01474 365485

SMILE ADMINISTRATOR/TRAINEE CLERK TO GOVERNORS

37 hpw term-time only

New Kent Scheme Grade 5 – Points 14 to 17
(£16,627 to £18,288 per annum pro-rata)

We are seeking to appoint a friendly, enthusiastic and skilled individual to join our busy administration team. The post holder will be responsible for organising training events, managing resources and act as first point of contact for all visitors to Ifield Smile, our successful outreach, training and resource centre. They will also work along side our existing Clerk to the Governors with a view to taking over the role on her retirement.

The successful candidate should have good interpersonal skills and be computer literate with competent typing skills and a sound knowledge of Microsoft Office. Previous experience in an education background is desirable but not essential. A flexible nature and attention to detail is most important and a professional attitude is essential.

Basic hours will be 8.30am to 4.30pm, term-time only, but there will also be a requirement to work evenings on an occasional basis. This will be paid at the appropriate overtime rate.

Informal visits to the school and centre are welcome. Please contact the Assistant Headteacher, Lisa Candy, or Bursar, Carole Rough, in order to discuss the post and obtain further details.

Website: www.ifieldschool.com E-mail: ifieldschool@aol.com
Closing date: 5 December 2008

Ifield School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people. Appointment to this position will be subject to an enhanced Criminal Records Bureau Disclosure check



SELLINDGE PRIMARY SCHOOL VACANCY FULL TIME SCHOOL SECRETARY

Required for January 2009
Kent Pay Scheme Band 5
40 weeks a year 8:30 – 4:00

For details please contact: Miss Baxter
Sellindge Primary School,
Main Road, Sellindge, Kent TN25 6JY
Tel: 01303-812073

Email: headteacher@sellindge-ashford.kent.sch.uk

St Werburgh Medical Practice

98 Bells Lane, Hoo, Rochester, Kent ME3 9HJ
Tel: 01634 250523

PART TIME DISPENSER/RECEPTIONIST REQUIRED

GP Dispensing Practice 20 Hours per week Mon - Fri, NVQ level 2 qualification in Dispensing essential. Must be able to work without supervision and have own transport. Must be willing to cover holidays and sickness.

PART TIME NURSE OR EXPERIENCED HCA REQUIRED

for general treatment room duties at a multi site GP surgery 25 hours per week Mon - Fri am/pm sessions. Car essential, must be willing to cover holiday and sickness.

Closing date: 19 December 2008

Contact: Mrs Julie Allen – julie.allen@nhs.net



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Eastern and Coastal Kent

From Sheerness to Dungeness, Ashford to Ramsgate, over 710,000 people depend on Eastern and Coastal Kent NHS – and we put them at the heart of everything we do. All our staff work hard every day to improve health and well-being for the local community, to tackle health inequalities and to provide high quality, responsive and efficient services, both directly and through commissioning.

As one of Kent's largest employers, we aim to employ and train a world-class workforce capable of meeting our many challenges. In return for your skills and commitment we offer wide-ranging staff benefits including real investment in personalised career development, flexible working, childcare, final salary pension scheme and in-house discounts.

Why not join us?

STAFF BENEFITS PACKAGE

- Final salary pension scheme
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SELECTION OF CURRENT OPPORTUNITIES

ADMIN AND CLERICAL / DOMESTIC SERVICES

Job Title: Clinic Support Clerk

Salary: £12,922 to £15,950 pa

Band: 2

Hours: 3.5

Location: Chatham

Ref: 767-ECS444

Closing date: 04/12/08

Job Title: Secretary to Head of IM&T

Salary: £14,834 to £17,732 pa

Band: 3

Hours: 37.5

Location: Trinity House, Ashford

Ref: 767-ASH228

Closing date: 05/12/08

NURSING AND MIDWIFERY REGISTERED

Job Title: Community Health Nurse

Salary: £20,225 to £26,123 pa

Band: 5

Hours: 37.5

Location: Dover Health Centre

Ref: 767-ASH226

Closing date: 05/12/08

Job Title: Community Health Nurse (School Nursing)

Salary: £20,225 to £26,123 pa

Band: 5

Hours: 30

Location: Dover Health Centre

Ref: 767-ASH227

Closing date: 05/12/08

Job Title: Staff Nurse

Salary: £20,225 to £26,123 pa

Band: 5

Hours: 37.5

Location: Faversham Cottage Hospital

Ref: 767-ASH229

Closing date: 06/12/08

Job Title: Nurse Practitioner MIU

Salary: £24,103 to £32,653 pa

Band: 6

Hours: 37.5

Location: Sheppey Community Hospital

Ref: 767-ASH230

Closing date: 06/12/08

Job Title: Clinical Nurse Specialist x 3

Salary: £29,091 - £38,385

Band: 7

Hours: 37.5

Location: Protea House, Dover

Ref: 767-ECC645

Closing date: 11/12/08

ALLIED HEALTH PROFESSIONALS

Job Title: Highly Specialist Obesity Dietitian

Salary: £29,091 to £38,352 pa

Band: 7

Hours: 37.5

Location: Sittingbourne Research Centre

Ref: 767-ASH191

Closing date: 03/12/08

Job Title: Prescribing Project Dietitian

Salary: £20,225 to £26,123 pa

Band: 5

Hours: 37.5

Location: William Harvey Hospital, Ashford

Ref: 767-ASH232

Closing date: 08/12/08

Job Title: Speech & Language Therapist (Schools Team & Early Years)

Salary: £20,225 - £26,123

Band: 5

Hours: 37.5

Location: QVMH, Herne Bay & Local Primary Schools, Thanet

Ref: 767-ECC637

Closing date: 16/12/08

Job Title: Speech & Language Therapist (Language Unit & Early Years)

Salary: £20,225 - £26,123

Band: 5

Hours: 37.5

Location: Laleham Gap School & Canterbury Health Centre

Ref: 767-ECC638

Closing date: 16/12/08

Job Title: Specialist Speech & Language Therapist (Thanet Schools Team)

Salary: £24,103 - £32,653

Band: 6

Hours: 37.5

Location: Mill Lane House, Margate

Ref: 767-ECC635

Closing date: 16/12/08

Job Title: Speech & Language Therapist (Schools Team & Early Years)

Salary: £20,225 - £26,123

Band: 5

Hours: 37.5

Location: Whitstable Health Centre & Local Primary Schools

Ref: 767-ECC639

Closing date: 16/12/08

Job Title: Specialist Speech & Language Therapist (Schools Team)

Salary: £24,103 - £32,653

Band: 6

Hours: 37.5

Location: Mill Lane House, Margate

Ref: 767-ECC634

Closing date: 16/12/08

Job Title: Highly Specialist Speech & Language Therapist (Schools Team)

Salary: £29,091 - £38,352

Band: 7

Hours: 26.25

Location: Canterbury & Faversham Schools

Ref: 767-ECC631

Closing date: 16/12/08

Job Title: Specialist Speech & Language Therapist (Early Years)

Salary: £24,103 - £32,653

Band: 6

Hours: 18.75

Location: Seashells Children's Centre, Sheerness

Ref: 767-ECC632

Closing date: 16/12/08

Job Title: Specialist Speech & Language Therapist (ASD/Secondary School Service)

Salary: £24,103 - £32,653

Band: 6

Hours: 37.5

Location: Spring Lane Neighbourhood Centre, Canterbury

Ref: 767-ECC633

Closing date: 16/12/08

ADDITIONAL CLINICAL SERVICES

Job Title: Healthcare Assistant

Salary: £12,922 to £15,950 pa

Band: 2

Hours: 30

Location: Faversham Cottage Hospital

Ref: 767-ASH231

Closing date: 08/12/08

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Full Time RGN

38.5-44 HRS PER WEEK
£10.50-£10.86 depending on experience

Please contact Philippa for application Pack

BeneCare Fostering

OFSTED REGISTERED

Can you provide a safe and caring home for vulnerable children? We would love to hear from you if you are interested or involved in Fostering and would like additional information. Full training and support provided in addition to excellent rates of pay.

For details please contact 01732 746697
info@benecarefostering.co.uk
www.benecarefostering.co.uk

Foster carers wanted

The Caldecott Foundation, which cares for vulnerable children who have experienced extreme trauma and disruption, seeks dedicated and highly motivated foster carers. Comprehensive training and support given, plus excellent rates of pay.

Contact **Jamie Bromfield** or **Erica Eversfield** on 01303 815648 or email foster@caldecottfoundation.co.uk

The Caldecott Foundation, Smeeth, Ashford, Kent TN25 6SP.

Anchor Foster Care Services are looking to recruit additional foster carers

We would love to hear from you if you are interested in fostering and would like some additional information. However we are particularly interested in hearing from people who meet the following criteria:

- Carers without birth children under 10
- People with one or more spare bedrooms
- Two parent families
- People who can support children with physical and/or learning disabilities.

In return we offer a generous reward package and a level of support and training that is second to none.

0800 328 3119 or 01634 283140
www.anchorfostercare.co.uk

New start for 2009

The Royal School of Military Engineering

Support Opportunities

Mid Kent College (MKC) is delighted to partner the Royal School of Military Engineering (RSME) at Brompton Barracks, Chatham.

We provide the trades and technical training for over 8500 Royal Engineers each year and are recruiting a number of key posts to complement the teams already in place at the RSME.

Facilities Manager Circa £38,000 – to take full responsibility for the buildings & infrastructure (including workshops and classrooms) occupied by MKC Training Services on site at the RSME. Experience of the management of Electro/Mechanical services essential.

Workshop Assistant £19,008 - £21,000 – to provide practical support within the Fitter Department, assisting with the smooth running of the stores, light maintenance duties and the movement of equipment. Would suit someone with a mechanical background and a current Fork Lift licence.

ICT Site Engineer £19,736 - £25,441 – to provide support and maintenance in response to "logged" fault calls. Must be familiar with the configuration and use of all Microsoft desk top operating systems and experienced with configuring and installing computer hardware/ancillary components. You will work within an established team, in a professional environment at a time when the RSME moves into an exciting phase of its development.

Whilst you will already have skills, qualifications and/or experience relevant for these posts, you will be fully supported and encouraged to gain further appropriate qualifications and accreditation that will develop you as an individual and benefit the RSME.

For an application form and job description please: Visit our website www.midkent.ac.uk
Email: rsme.recruitment@midkent.ac.uk
Telephone 01634 884555 (24 hr answer machine)

For an informal discussion on these positions, please call: **Ken Pullan** on 07725128661

Closing Date 5th December 2008

The College is committed to Equal Opportunities and to selection on merit. It welcomes applications from all sections of society. We particularly welcome and encourage applications from under represented groups including black, minority ethnic and disabled people.

MKC Training Services is an equal opportunity employer

Career Opportunities

Canterbury College

Canterbury College is an equal opportunities employer

Canterbury College is a Further and Higher Education College in the heart of Kent. Our goal is to be one of the best FE Colleges in England by 2010. We have 9,000 students across 300 courses and enjoy an enviable reputation as a great place to learn. Our brand new £50M campus is also home to nearly 800 staff and we have some great career opportunities which may be right for you.

Head of Faculty A Levels, Science & Humanities Ref 06/103
37 hours per week, salary starting from £42,128 per annum

Lecturer Early Years Ref 08/40
2 posts at 37 hours per week, salary range £18,387 – £26,363 per annum

Temporary Lecturer Performing Arts and Contemporary Dance Ref 08/152
27.75 hours per week, salary range £18,387 – £26,363 pro rata per annum. Temporary post to cover maternity leave not to exceed one year

Supply Lecturer HE Business Enterprise and General Management to teach on HNC/HD and BA programmes. Ref S/HE/BE
Various hours available, salary range £18,387 – £26,363 pro rata per annum. Applicants must hold a first degree in any discipline

Supply Lecturers
Various hours available, salary range £18,387 – £26,363 pro rata per annum

Dental Nursing Ref S/DN
Information, Advice and Guidance Ref S/IAG
Mental Health Ref S/MH
Midwifery Ref S/MID
Catering and Hospitality Ref S/C&H
Key Skills Application of Number within Animal Care Ref S/KSAC
Early Years to teach BTEC First Diploma in Child Care, Learning and Development Ref S/EY

Supply Trainer Demonstrators Ref S/TD/ME
Various hours available, salary starting from £18,963 pro rata per annum

Mechanical Engineering
Machining (turning and milling)
Fabrication and Welding

Network Applications Technician (Advanced) Ref ATA
37 hours per week, salary starting from £21,440 per annum

Trainer Demonstrator Hospitality & Catering Ref TD8
2 posts at 18.5 hours per week, salary starting from £18,963 pro rata per annum

Trainer Demonstrator Hospitality & Catering Ref 08/153
9.25 hours per week, salary starting from 18,963 pro rata per annum

Skills for Life Initial Assessor Ref 08/154
18.5 hours per week, salary starting from £15,085 pro rata per annum

Cleaning Coordinator Ref CLC1
37 hours per week, salary starting from £16,914 per annum. 4 week shift pattern – 3 weeks nights and 1 week of days

Assistant Cleaning Coordinator Ref ACC1
37 hours per week, salary starting from £15,085 pro rata per annum (nights)

Supply NVQ Assessors in Early Years Ref S/ASS/EY
Various hours available, salary range from £18,295 - £26,232 pro rata per annum

For an information pack please visit www.canterburycollege.ac.uk or call the Human Resources Office on 01227 811282 (24 hr answerphone) quoting the above reference.

Staff benefits include:

- Pension & Life Assurance Scheme
- Proximity to main bus & train stations
- Close to City Centre
- Sports Hall & Gym
- Generous Holiday Allowance
- Staff Discount Scheme

The closing date for the above posts is Monday 8th December 2008 at 12 noon

CLICK www.canterburycollege.ac.uk/job-vacancies CALL 01227 811282 (24 hr answerphone)

Career Opportunities

Sheppey College

Sheppey College is a satellite of Canterbury College and has been open since 1996. We offer a variety of courses in a modern and friendly learning environment and enjoy excellent rates of success.

Lecturer Administration to Level 3 and Cross College Key Skills Ref 08/73
18.5 hrs per week, salary range £18,387 - £26,363 pro rata per annum

For an information pack please visit www.canterburycollege.ac.uk or call the Human Resources Office on 01227 811282 (24 hr answerphone) quoting the above reference.

Staff benefits include:

- Pension & Life Assurance Scheme
- Proximity to main bus & train stations
- Close to Town Centre
- Generous Holiday Allowance
- Close to Town Centre

The closing date for the above posts is Monday 8th December 2008 at 12 noon

CLICK www.canterburycollege.ac.uk/job-vacancies CALL 01227 811282 (24 hr answerphone)

To advertise in this section

**01303 817040**The smart way to find your next job **JobsforKent.co.uk****Marlowe Academy**Stirling Way, Ramsgate, Kent CT12 6NB
Tele: 01843 593326 – www.marloweacademy.co.uk

We are looking for candidates who are emotionally literate, committed to inclusion and willing to learn, to be part of the following teams:

Year 8/9

Key roles will include supporting students in completing study work, classroom support and as a Learning Mentor, meeting with students on a regular basis to confirm their progress and achievement, and to provide individual support as appropriate.

Science

Key roles to help support our exciting range of Science courses across KS3/4, supporting whole classes and individual students during practical and theoretical lessons and as a Learning Mentor. Experience of working within a school would be advantageous but an interest in Science is essential.

6th Form

Key roles will include supporting students in Years 11-14 in completing study work, classroom support and as a Learning Mentor, meeting with students on a regular basis to confirm their progress and achievement, and to provide individual support as appropriate.

We are looking for people who can take initiative and work both independently and as part of a team. All applications are welcome. Salary equivalent pt 8-12 on Kent Scheme. 14K pro rata for 40 hours a week term time only. The successful applicants will be subject to an enhanced CRB check.

Please send a copy of your CV and covering letter to our HR Department at Jenniferspooner@marloweacademy.co.uk or our address as above. Enquiries or visits to the Academy are welcome.

Please contact Jennifer Spooner on

direct telephone no: 01843 598550 or email to address above.

We look forward to hearing from you.

The closing date for post: Thursday, 11th December 2008

**New start for 2009****The Royal School of Military Engineering
Course Designer****Salary £34,000 per annum**

MidKent College (MKC) is delighted to partner the Royal School of Military Engineering (RSME) at Brompton Barracks, Chatham.

We provide the trades and technical training for over 8500 Royal Engineers each year and are recruiting a number of key posts to complement the teams already in place at the RSME.

If you are a Course Designer and would enjoy using your skills and experience to help develop the Military artisans of tomorrow, then this could be the ideal opportunity for you.

You will work within an established team, in a professional environment at a time when the RSME moves into an exciting phase of its development.

Whilst you will already have skills, qualifications and experience relevant for this post, you will be fully supported and encouraged to gain further appropriate qualifications and accreditation that will develop you as an individual and benefit the RSME.

If this sounds like the right role for you – get in touch nowFor an application form and job description please: Visit our website www.midkent.ac.ukEmail: rsme.recruitment@midkent.ac.uk

Telephone 01634 884555 (24 hr answer machine)

For an informal discussion on these positions, please call: Ken Pullan on 07725128661

Closing Date 30th November 2008The College is committed to Equal Opportunities and to selection on merit. It welcomes applications from all sections of society. We particularly welcome and encourage applications from under represented groups including black, minority ethnic and disabled people.

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Telephone 01634 884555 (24 hr answer machine)

For an informal discussion on these positions, please call: Ken Pullan on 07725128661

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Email graham@kent youth.org for a candidate pack.

Closing Date: 8th Dec 08 Interviews: 15th Dec 08

For an informal discussion, please call Graham Clowes on 01634 281841

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BUSINESS BRIEFS

Focus on staff welfare pays off for holiday park

KEEPING its staff as happy as its customers has won Ashcroft Coast Holiday Park, near Leysdown, the national Investors in People award.

The title provides a framework for improving performance and competitiveness through training and development.

Gary Cook, general manager, said: "As part of our parent company, Park Resorts, we already had good practices in place, including training courses and a mystery shopper scheme.

"Since we started working with Investors in People I now hold weekly heads-of-department meetings and they in turn have their own team meetings.

"We also have 'Ten on Ten' daily, a ten-minute get-together to discuss any issues arising and which helps boost morale."

Marketing on the menu at breakfast meetings

A SERIES of business breakfasts offering practical marketing help and advice has been organised by the Kent branch of the Chartered Institute of Marketing (CIM).

Using professional marketers and aimed at the county's small and medium sized businesses (SMEs), Simply Better Marketing will help people make the most of marketing resources.

The first three events will offer businesses simple marketing advice. They will be run in conjunction with Business Link and hosted by Canterbury Christ Church University at Hall Place Enterprise Centre, Harbledown.

They are on February 25, March 25 and April 30. The Kent Branch of the CIM has more than 1,000 members.

For details, visit www.cim.co.uk.

Buy local to boost county economy this Christmas

PRODUCED IN KENT, the champion of food and drink producers across the county, is hoping more people than ever will take a trip to their local farm shops, independent retailers and farmers' markets when getting ready for Christmas.

Many families will be looking for ways to save money this year and it is also a time when local producers can compete with supermarkets in terms of seasonal staples.

Market research has shown that every £10 spent on local produce is worth £25 to the Kent economy, compared with only £14 when it's spent in a supermarket.

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KOS Media's Paul Stannard on our £1m challenge. See our business channel.

Banks' turn to help firms out of bad debt

■ BY TONY PATEY

BANKS had better pull out their fingers and start lending at sensible levels to struggling businesses.

The stiff verdict comes after the news that more than half of UK accountants reckon bad debts are one of the biggest worries for bosses.

Research by invoice and asset-based lender Venture Finance shows the knock-on domino effect of lack of cash, leading to late payments among firms along the chain, is unsurprisingly having a major impact.

Up to now, lack of liquidity – ready day-to-day cash – in the general banking market has already meant companies face difficulties when trying to re-finance – resulting in businesses of all sizes experiencing more and more late payments and bad debt.

Available

In Chancellor Alistair Darling's pre-Budget report last week the Government agreed a whopping £4 billion deal with the European Investment Bank for banks to pass on, and seven UK banks have already asked to be part of the action, and could be making money available by the end of the year.

There is also the credit worth £1bn to small firms which will be offered by the Government via a temporary Small Business Finance Scheme, and Mr Darling said from January that there will be short-term working capital help to small exporters to the tune of another £1bn.

Venture, which has a regional office in Canterbury covering the whole county, says that small and

medium sized enterprises (SMEs) feel threatened by forecasts that the number of business failures between 2007 and 2009 is expected to increase by 18 per cent.

But scores of businesses have no bad debt protection in place, often, it says, a result of having misplaced confidence in their customers.

Just one in five of accountants surveyed had business clients currently using protection services.

Dangerous

Tim Bourner, Venture's Canterbury business development manager, said: "The misguided assumption that 'it will never happen to me' is very dangerous, especially in these uncertain times.

"It is predicted that insolvency levels will continue to rise throughout this year and next, surpassing even those of the dot.com bubble burst in 2002, which saw almost 20,000 business fail, and the subsequent ripples will be far-reaching.

"It is encouraging, however, to see that accountants recognise the value of bad debt protection – perhaps because they have witnessed the consequences of businesses not doing so in the past."

Bad debt protection gives full cover on invoices, providing small to medium enterprises peace of mind and sheltering business against unforeseen loss of income.

Especially for a young company, late payment and non-payment can have a significant effect on cashflow, causing huge financial strain and threatening business security.



BIG DEAL: The Chancellor of the Exchequer, Alistair Darling, announced a £7 billion package of measures for the county's businesses in his pre-Budget report last week

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Quick-thinking Dafydd catches Cranbrook dozing

Picture ALAN BOURNE



WING WIZARD: Rob Ellis dives over to score Medway's first try on Saturday

MEDWAY continue to defy expectations by beating Cranbrook, one of their main rivals, for their 11th successive victory in all competitions to stay top of Kent 1.

Both sides have been in excellent form since promotion from Kent 2 last season, both injuries affecting first team players on both teams, the game was a test of squad strength.

Considering the amount of rainfall in the days preceding the game, the Cranbrook pitch was in good condition. The hosts were the first on the board after a ferocious opening spell.

Medway were caught offside after 20 minutes and the resulting penalty was successful, but the lead was short-lived as Medway scored from the restart.

RUGBY

Cranbrook 6 Medway 20

Good work from Monish Shome and Roger Rhyneheart set up a ruck in front of the home posts and quick ball was spread across the backs, culminating in Rob Ellis diving over in the corner.

Minutes later it was 10-3 to Medway as Dafydd Ruffel caught Cranbrook dozing with a quickly-taken penalty to dummy his way over for a fine try.

A second penalty for Cranbrook narrowed the deficit to four points at half-time.

Medway suffered a blow soon after the resumption when winger Dayne Glassey was forced from the field with concussion. He was replaced by 18-year-old Tom Willoughby, who soon made his mark.

A well-rehearsed set piece saw Ruffel and Rhyneheart combine to put Willoughby over in the corner. Glen Wadsworth kicked the conversion to give Medway a 17-6 lead.

Stout defence kept Cranbrook out and Wadsworth hit a penalty to complete the scoring.

Medway host Old Gravesendians at Priestfields on Saturday in a top of the table clash. If Taff Gwilliam's side can maintain their winning run, their lead will be extended to four points.

Sudbury lose out to rampant Holcs

HOLCOMBE Ladies stayed in contention at the top of the East Women's Premier with a confident win away to Sudbury on Saturday.

The 5-2 win extended their unbeaten run to five league games. They remain third, six points behind leaders Cambridge City, but with a game in hand.

The prolific Jennie Hoyte scored twice, while there were also goals for Julia Axcell, Marlisie Joubert and Christine Cook to round off a routine victory against their struggling opponents.

Mike Haines' side have a break in fixtures this weekend, before resuming on December 13 with a rearranged fixture against West Herts.

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Catch-up with the action from Invicta Dynamos' game against Oxford City Stars

League leaders on top of their game

REAL Huntsman continue to be the team to beat in the City Masters League Premier Division, having racked up double figures against Wild's United.

The unbeaten league leaders won their 11th game out of 12 with a 15-0 crushing of a side also in the top half.

Their lead remains a single point as Jules Rimet continue their dogged pursuit, beating MAD Dogs 7-2.

Atomics leapfrogged Warrenwood Social into third place with a 4-2 win against their rivals.

At the other end, Average Joe's are still without a point after they crashed 8-1 to JA Reunited.

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CLOSE: Curtis Weston (left) was one of several Gillingham players denied in a superb first half on Saturday, although Mark McCammon will be out for some time with an hamstring injury



Picture: KEITH SATERGORDON

Stockport stalemate has Gills' Villa dream on hold

FOOTBALL

BY DAVID PRITCHARD

Gillingham 0

Stockport County 0

Gillingham starting XI



Subs used: Mulligan (Miller 64), McCammon (Barcham 78), Pugh (McCammon 89)

GILLINGHAM were given a huge incentive to overcome Stockport County in their FA Cup replay next week after being paired with Aston Villa in the third round on Sunday.

Martin O'Neill's side will visit Priestfield if Gills can find a way past County at the second attempt, a fixture which would generate a welcome cash injection for the club.

In Saturday's game the home side surprised their League One visitors in the first half with their desire and moments of genuine quality.

County were more of a threat after the break, but they were certainly happier with the replay.

Manager Mark Stimson was delighted with the performance, but considering Gills' poor away record he felt their best chance of progressing had gone.

He said: "Possibly, yes, because they will be thinking now 'job done, get Gillingham back to our patch and do what they did to Yeovil [a 5-0 first round replay win] to us'.

"We can go there knowing we can create a chance or two. It's just we have to make sure we

keep it tight at the back, which we haven't done enough this year on our away travels."

County might have been reduced to ten men on 25 minutes when Simeon Jackson tumbled while under pressure from last man James Tunnicliffe, but the referee waved play on.

Gills went close when Curtis Weston and Adam Miller forced good saves from goalkeeper Adam Fon Williams before the break.

County switched from 4-4-2 to 4-5-1 to stop the hosts' momentum and it was largely successful. They became more of an attacking force and Simon Royce had to be on top form to

deny Stephen Gleeson late on.

The teams must do it all over again at Edgeley Park next week, for the right to host Villa. Stimson would rate a win there as his best result in his 13 months in charge.

He said: "By far, because they are a good side. Last year we went to Swansea in my first game which was an excellent point, but if we were to go there and win it would definitely rank up there as one of my best results."

This Saturday, Gills host Chesterfield. Log on to www.yourmedway.co.uk from 2.30pm for live updates.

New faces promised as Chats continue to slide

FOOTBALL

BY DAVID PRITCHARD

Chatham Town 2

Ascheri 23, 46

Potters Bar Town 4

Francis 16, 89, Edgar 25, Roberts 49

Chatham starting XI



Subs used: Elmes (Farrell 45), Austin (Brooks 75)

CHATHAM Town manager Steve Binks is hoping to sign several new players as early as today to strengthen his struggling side.

The reinforcements, which are expected to be in a variety of positions, will help offset the loss of Darren Smith, who has joined Folkestone Invicta.

Binks said: "We will be looking to bring in three or four new players, hopefully this week ahead of two very tough games against Waltham Abbey and Concord Rangers.

"Darren parted on good terms and we wish him all the best at Folkestone."

Vulnerable

Town's disappointing season continued on Saturday as they went down at home to Potters Bar Town for their fourth defeat in five league games.

In an open game played on a heavy pitch, Justin Ascheri cancelled out the visitors' early goal. But within two minutes of drawing level the Chats conceded and exactly the same thing happened when Ascheri scored his second goal just after half-time.

The hosts had a good spell in the second half,

but could not find a third equaliser. Potters Bar broke quickly in the final minute to make it 4-2 and leave the Chats fifth bottom in the Ryman North.

Binks said: "It should have been about 5-5 because both sides looked vulnerable defensively.

"We created some really good chances again, but we just weren't able to hold on after getting back into the game twice.

"I thought Justin Ascheri was excellent, it was the best game he's had for the club."

The game marked a debut for new first team coach Matt Longhurst, who stepped down as Slade Green manager last week.

The UEFA A-qualified coach will take training for the first time on Thursday and Binks hopes he will bring a fresh approach.

He said: "Matt's an excellent addition to the set-up, he's very enthusiastic and has a lot of ideas. He made some observations after the game which confirmed to me where we need to improve."

Chatham played Ramsgate in the League Cup second round last night. Log on to www.yourmedway.co.uk for the report, reaction and the latest on the new signings.

• Email sports@kosmedia.co.uk



Picture: ADRIAN LINE

HEADING SOUTH: Former captain Darren Smith has left Chatham Town to join up with Folkestone Invicta



TEAM TALK

with Gills skipper
BARRY FULLER

We must take Stock first before thinking about Villa

I WAS watching the FA Cup draw with some family and mates in the pub on Sunday, everyone went crazy when they realised we could get Aston Villa in the next round. For every club outside the top division it's the dream to get a big Premier League club in the cup.

It would be great, not just for us but the fans and the whole club to have Aston Villa come to Priestfield. With the way they are playing this season, if we couldn't have got one of the big four then they are the biggest team we could have got.

They would expect to beat us, but you just never know in the FA Cup, there are always surprises and it might just be us this time.

It would be great if we had got the goal on Saturday and gone through, knowing we would definitely have Villa. But the chance is still there and it's a great incentive to go to Stockport and get a result – it will come down to who wants it more now.

I think we did enough in Saturday's performance to get through. In the first half it was the best I have seen the team play since I've been at the club. I don't think they expected us to pass it as well as we did. Against most clubs we would have been 2-0 up but credit to them for keeping us out, they are flying high in their league at the moment.

They probably had a roasting from their gaffer at half-time and it was a real compliment to us they had to change their shape and put an extra body in midfield for the second half. We had to roll up our sleeves and dig in, but we always knew we would probably have to at some point.

The draw is great but it's so important we don't get distracted because we need to do the business against Chesterfield in the league on Saturday.

We have to make sure we beat them and then we can put everything into getting a result at Stockport next week.

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Gills boss Mark Stimson on the loss of the club's scouting network

Mos' title hopes boosted after back-to-back wins

ICE HOCKEY

Invicta Dynamos 6 Oxford City Stars 1

A THREADBARE Invicta got their league season back on track by thrashing league leaders Oxford City Stars on Sunday.

The win, arguably their best of the season, came 24 hours after a 3-2 win on the road against Peterborough Islanders.

Back-to-back wins lifted the Mos into fifth place in the South A division, but they could go top with victories from the four games they have in hand.

Mos head coach Kevin Parrish was delighted with his players' efforts.

He said: "It was a superb weekend, especially with the injuries and bans. I think because we had a depleted squad everyone knew they had to do what they were told.

"Four points this weekend is massive for us, we'll climb the table and it sets a precedent for the rest of the league. They are going to fear playing us now, which they should have anyway."

In a tight game on Sunday, Karl Lennon's 23rd-minute strike was all that separated the two teams going into the final period.

The Stars levelled in the first minute of the third period to prevent new netminder Joe White from a shutout on his home debut.

The goal gave Oxford hope, but the Mos bounced back to score five goals in a devastating spell late on, with Milan Kostolny, Grant Baxter, Anthony Lennon, Elliot Andrews and Jake Tarczycki all on target.

Parrish said: "It's a massive boost for us and I don't think the scoreline flattered us in any way."



Picture: GOR KAPRO

ON TARGET: Karl Lennon opened the scoring for the Mos in Sunday's win against Oxford

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1 Wycombe Wanderers	17	10	7	0	+14	37
2 Bradford City	18	10	3	5	+10	33
3 Darlington	18	9	5	4	+14	32
4 Shrewsbury Town	18	8	7	3	+19	31
5 Rochdale	18	8	7	3	+11	31
6 Bury	18	9	4	5	+9	31
7 Brentford	18	8	7	3	+9	31
8 Exeter City	18	8	5	5	+3	29
9 Gillingham	18	8	4	6	0	28
10 Dagenham & Red	18	8	3	7	+15	27
11 Aldershot Town	18	8	3	7	-5	27
12 Chesterfield	18	6	5	7	+4	23
13 Lincoln City	18	6	5	7	-1	23
14 Port Vale	18	6	2	10	-10	20
15 Macclesfield Town	17	6	2	9	-11	20
16 Accrington Stanley	18	5	4	9	-3	19
17 Notts County	18	3	9	6	-6	18
18 Morecambe	18	3	9	6	-8	18
19 Chester City	18	4	4	10	-14	16
20 Barnet	18	3	5	10	-18	14
21 Rotherham U (-17)	18	7	6	5	+2	10
22 Grimsby Town	18	1	7	10	-20	10
23 Bournemouth (-17)	17	3	7	7	-8	-1
24 Luton Town (-30)	17	5	4	8	-6	-11

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1 Aveley	19	13	6	0	+26	45
2 Ware	19	14	2	3	+20	44
3 Waltham Abbey	19	13	4	2	+31	43

16 Thamesmead Town	20	5	5	10	-13	20
17 Enfield Town	17	5	4	8	-7	19
18 Chatham Town	19	4	2	13	-14	14
19 Ilford	18	4	1	13	-30	13
20 Waltham Forest	20	3	3	14	-24	12
21 Witham Town	16	2	1	13	-34	7
22 Hillingdon Borough	18	2	1	15	-36	7

KENT LEAGUE PREMIER DIVISION TABLE

1 Holmesdale	15	10	3	2	+16	33
2 Hythe Town	14	10	2	2	+18	32
3 Tunbridge Wells	13	10	0	3	+12	30
4 Herne Bay	14	8	1	5	+10	25
5 Faversham Town	12	8	0	4	+23	24
6 Deal Town	14	5	4	5	+2	19
7 Sevenoaks Town	14	5	4	5	0	19
8 Erith & Belvedere	10	6	1	3	-1	19
9 Greenwich Borough	13	6	1	6	-2	19
10 Erith Town	12	5	3	4	+5	18
11 Slade Green	15	5	3	7	-2	18
12 VCD Athletic	11	5	1	5	+11	16
13 Norton Sports	12	5	1	6	-8	16
14 Beckenham Town	15	4	2	9	-3	14
15 Croydon	4	1	1	21	-1	13
16 Lordswood	13	1	1	11	-21	4
17 Sporting Bengal Utd	14	0	0	14	-59	0

FIXTURES (Saturday): Coca-Cola Football League Two: Gillingham v Chesterfield; Ryman Division One North: Waltham Abbey v Chatham Town; Kent League Premier Division: Lordswood v Hythe Town

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any starter, any main course
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All offers exclude banquet and buffet ** ID must be shown except banquet & buffet